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E. A. Goodnow

THE DEDICATION

Of Goodnow Memorial Building
And Bagg Hall : Princeton Mass-
achusetts : : September 6th : 1887



WORCESTER

LUCIUS PAULINUS GODDARD

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Prefatory Note

In the year 1884, Edward A. Goodnow by a deed of gift transferred to the Town of Princeton the Memorial Library Building which he had erected in the Centre. At a later date he gave to the Town for the site of a town hall a suitable lot of land adjoining the site of the Memorial Building together with such a sum of money as insured the construction of the building in its present style and completeness. These enterprises made it desirable that the Congregational church, standing directly in front, should be removed in order to give the new buildings their full effect. The proprietors of the church happily concurred in this view and the edifice was removed and the land which it had occupied was made a public possession.

When these things had been accomplished, the Town at its annual meeting in March 1887 made provision for the dedication of the new buildings ; and all things being in readiness the Dedication took place on the sixth day of September in the same year. The principal addresses and speeches on the occasion here follow, while an account of the proceedings, preliminary and concurrent, will be found with other matters in the Appendix.



Prayer

BY REV. WILLIAM SILVERTHORNE

Almighty God, we have met in thy great name to consecrate to thee and to thy service among our fellow citizens and mankind, Goodnow Memorial Hall, and also Bagg Hall.

We thank thee for these beautiful Halls; for this day; for the bright sunshine; for the balmy air; for this large assembly of intelligent citizens; for thy favoring providences; and for all thy blessings given to us.

As an interested part of the human race we ask thy blessing upon mankind; more and more bless the people of these United States; bless thy servants our President and his Cabinet; bless our Congress, Senators and Representatives, and aid them to make good and wise laws; bless our Governors and their Councilors; particularly bless the Governor of our Commonwealth who cannot be with us at this Dedication; greatly bless thy servant who gave for the public good so much in these noble memorial halls, which do thou, O Lord, fully protect night and day; bless all this congregation, and particularly the speakers who will address us, so that they will do good to all of us. We commit ourselves fully to thee, our heavenly Father, and pray thee evermore, always, guide us to thy glory by the aid of thy Spirit, through Jesus our Lord and Saviour. Amen.



DEDICATORY ADDRESSES



Introductory Address

BY THE PRESIDENT, HON. THOMAS H. RUSSELL

It is now about three years since the corner stone was laid of one of the buildings, the erection of all of which mark and constitute, perhaps, the most notable event in the history of this municipality.

The munificent purpose of Mr. EDWARD A. GOODNOW, of presenting the town with a Free Library Building, then entering upon its realization, led in its progress to larger plans and unexpected changes. An accidental fire having destroyed the then Town Hall, suggested the change of location of the house of worship of the Congregational Society, the erection of the present very elegant and commodious Town Hall, and the devotion of the large and ample grounds of the Society, now constituting the beautiful lawns in front of the three buildings, to public uses forever, as a park. These improvements are each and all, in their outward relations, part and parcel one of the other. The Library building was completed in 1884; the removal of the Church building and the erection of the Town Hall occupied the years 1885-1886. Owing to some questions as to the manner of grading and arranging the grounds, the final completion of these undertakings was delayed to the opening of the present season. All being now complete, it has seemed to the Town meet that this service of dedication and acknowledgment of its obligation to the

generosity of the donors be recognized in a formal manner, and the services of this day are in pursuance of its vote to this effect.

Of the large expense incurred in all this, above \$40,000 was the gift of Mr. Goodnow: the cost of the Library Building fully equipped, with the sum of \$5,000 in money as a Library fund, being entirely from him. The cost of erecting the Town Hall, and the changes of location and improvement of the Church edifice, has been borne, saving the sum of about \$10,000 appropriated by the Town, by voluntary contributions of citizens and friends, among whom Mr. Goodnow was a liberal donor.

I may not, without doing injustice, omit to make mention, in this connection, of the generous action of the Congregational Society, in whose house of worship we are now assembled. I have great respect for and faith in the modern Church; and the Church I mean includes every order calling itself Christian. It has dominated the thought of the world for these fifteen centuries, because it has never yet failed to accept, though sometimes with halting but conservative wisdom, all new light that in the progress of the race has broken out of the Word or Works of the Almighty. The time has been when a Church would hesitate before it surrendered the choicest site of the town, long held, and solemnly dedicated to religious uses, to, or divide it with a Town Hall and a Public Library. It has come to be the opinion of many Churches, as well as men, that the salvation of men, in *this world*, from ignorance, and the uplifting of the masses, in *time*, by the promotion of knowledge, personal freedom and free institutions, is well within the scheme of the great Head and Founder of the Church.

The Congregational Society of this town, to its lasting honor, by a vote unanimous, so far as I know, gladly con-

sented to the removal of its edifice from its central site, to give equal accommodation with its own to both new buildings, and at the same time freely dedicated the large and beautiful lawn in its front, and owned by it, to public uses.

Today all stands complete, and it remains that our thoughts and words be such as shall manifest grateful acknowledgment and intelligent appreciation of the great and lasting value of the benefits conferred on us, and the generations after us who shall occupy our places of today.

Just across the way stand these two typical buildings — one a TOWN HALL, one a FREE LIBRARY.

A TOWN HALL — it means a free community, in a free state, in a free nation. It is a modern institution in the form in which we see it. In this form, in the great world, it is as yet a missionary institution. In its full significance, dignity and importance, it is of New England origin, and openly declares that political power has made its dwelling place among the people. This fundamental idea is fast coming to dominate the thought of all English speaking peoples, and in lesser degree and less pronounced form, both French and Germanic; but, alas! alas! for the wide world beyond. The town hall has no place, function or significance among the barbarous and savage, the ignorant and illiterate; no place where the law of might makes the law of right. It is the last, and not the first, in the evolution of the highest manhood; it is the flower and fruitage of advancing, progressive civilization. It is itself an outgrowth. It must have congenial soil, root, stalk and branch. These are, and only are, intelligent citizens, thoroughly imbued with the great moral principles and obedient to the laws that underlie and make possible rational social life.

In that other building, yonder — a FREE LIBRARY — we see the type of that which must precede and underlie any public

liberty that is hopeful, or that can be enduring. *That* stands for intelligence. Intelligence always means power; intelligence with moral qualities means power and blessing. To-day, amid all the din and strife of tongue and pen about labor and capital, and their respective rights and duties, in the very front of all combinations of labor for protection or aggrandizement, stands the fact that *skilled* labor has rarely been in greater demand or at higher prices, and this at a moment when the purchasing power of money is vastly increased. The skilled, intelligent hand, that can dominate and manipulate the great forces of nature as one after another is made subject to the needs and wants of man, by an ever and in our day swiftly advancing science, is and ever will be in demand and at the front in the race of life. Pitiable indeed the lot of the ignorant and unskilled laborer. Every machine that ever has been, or ever shall be invented, from simplest to grandest, is and ever will be a competitor for his daily bread. Under the great laws of our social life no man, save himself, can help him. In *this* lies the supreme value of a free public Library: it helps men to help themselves, the most real help that one being can confer upon another.

A LIBRARY — the garnered thought of the greatest and best; FREE — wisdom pouring its treasures into every willing ear, without money and without price, who shall escape just inferiority, that neglects so great opportunity?

Who can escape its influence? It is like the rain; its influence falls on the just and the unjust; like the sun, it shines for the evil and the good. It is always and ever a light shining among men. If some will not use its treasures, others will; perchance, a friend, a neighbor, a child, will taste and see that it is good; and lifted, will by the subtle power of social influence, against which no barrier of prejudice or indifference can stand, lift others.

The public benefactor who plants such an institution need let no apparent indifference or lack of appreciation chill for a moment his heart or purpose. The greater the need, the greater the gift. It comes with the potency of untold good within it, and will work it out. One might as soon attempt to bind the sweet influence of the Pleiades or loose the bands of Orion, as to restrain or limit this power. Time, with it, is a very small element. It comes to stay.

This great gift, in form and proportion a "thing of beauty," "a joy forever," with foundation literally on and of rock; its walls and towers of solid granite; its beams and fittings all of the goodly ash; this light, literally set on a hill, shall long endure. Age will come to it, but without diminution or decrease, but with great increase, bringing no feebleness, but strength a thousand-fold.

This noble and lasting blessing to this community of today, and the whole long unthinkable future, is the thought and realized purpose of one heart, perpetuating in it the memory of the loved and lost, by bestowing its blessings on thousands of living, and upon tens of thousands yet unborn. It comes to you, not from a dead hand, through the official act of a legal representative, but devoted to its high purpose by pulsating heart, it gracefully passes to you from a living hand.

We are now assembled in pursuance of the formal action of this town, in order that for it as a municipality, and for ourselves, its citizens, its children, its friends, we may, by formal words, make record of our full appreciation of the great and abiding usefulness of these structures; may for ourselves and the multitude that shall come after us, make grateful recognition and acknowledgment of the wise and graceful generosity of the donor of this home of letters and learning, and of the liberality of citizens and friends, which supplementing the generous appropriation by the municipality, has

provided the present tasteful and commodious Town Hall. On this beautiful autumnal day, when here and there the glowing tints remind us that soon,

The woods shall wear their robes of praise,
The south winds softly sigh,
And calm, sweet days, in golden haze
Melt down the amber sky,

with not a few of us looking upon the "things that are seen, through memory's sunset air," let all our "hearts be young again, and the windows of our souls wide open to the sun," while we joyfully and thankfully dedicate these two buildings to the noble uses and purposes of their erection.

Dedicatory Address

BY NATHAN ALLEN, M. D., LL. D.

The occasion that has convened this audience is one of special interest to the residents and natives of Princeton. The incorporation of the town in 1759, and its centennial observance in 1859, were important events, but the transactions of this day may in time prove equally as important. A train of influences may here be started which will not only deeply interest those present, but their effects may be transmitted for generations. It will be our aim, in this address, not to deal in generalities or sentiments, gathered simply for the present occasion, but to discuss topics of vital importance, which may be turned to a more practical account. Instead of rehearsing things common and known, let us rather seek for hidden treasures—for new ideas and truths. We meet in some respects as the representatives of a great family, most of whom have already departed. In a review of the early history and character of this family, by a careful analysis of facts and in the spirit of charity, let us inquire if lessons may not be gleaned from this source, for our mutual improvement and edification.

One hundred and fifty years ago the territory occupied by this town was a complete wilderness. The first settlement made was in 1743, by Joshua Wilder, from Lancaster. In 1752 there were five families, and in 1759 they had increased

to thirty families, with seventy-four proprietors of land, showing a large number of single, and probably young, men preparing for permanent settlement. In October, 1759, the place was incorporated, after which the population increased rapidly, so that in ten years there were one hundred and nineteen families, and in 1790, when the first census of the state was taken, it had ten hundred and forty-two inhabitants. In 1885, at the last census, Princeton had only ten hundred and thirty-eight — actually four persons less than it had in 1790, almost one hundred years ago.

Every race and tribe of people are marked with certain characteristics; so are every community and family. There were peculiarities connected with this settlement which had a very marked influence on the life and character of its inhabitants. These settlers were mostly young men, coming from the earlier-settled towns in the eastern part of the state, such as Dedham and Medford, Sudbury and Watertown, Concord and Lexington, and a few from the adjoining towns of Lancaster and Rutland. They did not come as a colony, nor by way of acquaintance or relationship, but single and alone from almost as many different places. There was no speculation in the enterprise, no scheme for obtaining an easy living, or thought of returning to home comforts.

What, then, were the attractions and the motives? The place was not made up of a level plain or intervale land, where the soil was so rich that crops would grow without much labor, nor was it located in valleys warmed by the sun, and protected by higher grounds from the storms and the cold. But here were hills, rocks, and forests unequaled at the time. The soil was good, but required the hardest possible labor for its cultivation — a life-battle with Nature's elements. To overcome such obstacles required indomitable energy, a self-reliance and will-power that never falter. Only those who

had such qualities would here seek a home! "The people who settled this town," says the historian of Worcester county, "labored at first under very great difficulties by reason of the mountainous, rocky, and naturally moist state of their lands, together with the prodigious quantities of heavy timber with which the ground was covered." As farming was the sole business of these settlers, every one must select a separate spot for a permanent home. Thus these hills and slopes had, in 1790, one hundred and forty-four dwellings scattered in every part of the town. Partly on account of this separation of residence, and partly because the heads of these families were confined closely at home with work, there was little time or occasion for social intercourse. Neither was there opportunity to mingle much in society, or gather information from books or by travel.

Under these circumstances what should we expect would be the development and character of such a people? There are three sources from which human character is evolved: 1st, From natural talent or inherited qualities; 2d, From the daily habits of the body and of the mind; 3d, From the environments and surroundings of one's daily life. It is very evident that the natural qualities, both physical and mental, of these settlers were of the highest order, as they came from the best Puritan stock. It needs no argument to prove that farm-work for men and domestic labor for women are calculated, above all other employments, to develop strong and healthy bodies, especially under such circumstances. Then, the surroundings of these settlers — the pure air and water, the hills, the rocks, and the forests — must have had a powerful influence in developing both body and mind.

The theory has been advocated, that long residence in tilling the land in a hill-country is calculated not only to give health and strength, but to develop particularly the frame-work of

the body, making taller and larger-sized men. Physiology would favor this view, as such a situation calls into exercise more especially the muscles of the legs and of the spine.

It has been admitted everywhere by observers, travelers, and writers, that the hills and mountains have a marked influence upon character. Especially must this be the case with a people cultivating the land. This is not a new theory. In the time of Joshua we read of a tribe called the "Anakim," — giants in the land — and the Bible states that they came from the "Hill Country." Other illustrations from history might be given, did time permit. In our late civil war it was said the regiments from Vermont and Tennessee, living in a mountainous region, contained the largest and tallest soldiers. It is well known that the Scotch, who have lived for generations on the Highlands, have a much larger and better physical development than those who have always lived on the low grounds. While we would not attempt to prove that the settlers here and their descendants were "giants," we maintain that as a whole they were remarkably well developed in size, proportion, and height.

Physiology teaches that there is a normal standard of the human body, and we believe the early inhabitants of this town approached nearer this standard than could readily be found elsewhere. If such men and women as lived here one hundred years ago, with physical development marked in form, size, and proportion, and so expressive of strength, health, and intelligence, should appear in society at the present day, they would attract attention and admiration on every side.

The superior physical development of the settlers here laid the foundation for a marked mental and moral character. While there was little opportunity for securing culture, refinement, and general knowledge, there were elements of character developed which were marked and had a dominating

influence. None but those of indomitable energy and strong will-power would ever have settled in such a place. Then, in subduing Nature's hardest elements; in removing these rocks and forest-trees, root and branch; in reducing this hilly and tough ground to a state of cultivation, and providing a pleasant home for a family, they developed self-confidence and self-reliance.

Add to this the fact that these settlers lived scattered, each one very much by himself; they did their own thinking, and formed their own opinions, and were accustomed to look at things generally from one point of view. What must be the effect of such training and manner of living, but to create an intense individuality?—or, in other words, a predominance of those faculties which in activity and strength centre very much in self and self-interests. Such a result would follow as a matter of necessity, in accordance with the laws of the brain and the mind.

At the same time a strong religious influence prevailed among these settlers, and with most of them religion was considered paramount to everything else. Their convictions were positive on all subjects coming before them, and every man formed decided and independent opinions of his own. And when occasion offered they were not backward in expressing their opinions. Also, there was a feeling of general equality among them. They acknowledged no man master, nor did they submit graciously to leaders. They were in fact all leaders.

Now, a people or community whose character is based upon such elements will move along quietly and harmoniously where no questions arise to divide their opinions or touch their interests. An outside foe they could battle with shoulder to shoulder, but if their convenience or interests were in the least disturbed from within, there was no such

union or harmony of action. In the case of their first minister, Rev. Timothy Fuller, at some slight show of toryism and, as it was thought, some lack of attention to parochial duties, they called him to account, face to face, with strong language and sharp denunciation, and no apology or explanation could reconcile them. At the same time they had bitter contentions among themselves in laying out roads and in the selection of a place to build a meeting-house. When they could not agree among themselves, its location was referred to three prominent men in adjoining towns, but the report of their committee not suiting them was forthwith rejected.

The character of these settlers was conspicuously marked at the approach of and during the Revolutionary war. The very next year (1767) after the voters of Boston in convention had denounced the acts of parliament in taxing tea and other articles, the voters of Princeton came together and passed very strong resolutions. No town in the state was more positive and outspoken on the subject, or more liberal in sending soldiers to the war, as well as in providing means for their support. In all this work, carried on for nearly twenty years, they were united and self-sacrificing; but not so in their town business and church meetings. Here this intense individualism was very marked. These disagreements, these contentions in public matters, and especially religions, carried on for a long time, are here and elsewhere well known. In the two small histories of Princeton, just half of one and more than two-thirds of the other are devoted to "Ecclesiastical History." It is not so much the prominence of ecclesiastical matters in the history of the town, as the spirit and character with which they were conducted. If it had not been for this intense individualism that pervaded the early settlers and their immediate descendants, there never would have been occasion for so much of this history.

In pointing out certain peculiarities in the character of these settlers, it is not done so much by way of reflection or criticism, as for explanation and instruction. The fault was partly in the times and partly in their situation, circumstances, and manner of living. In attempting to analyze philosophically the constituents of their character, we find them based principally upon the faculties of self-esteem, firmness, and conscience, and in their exercise influenced very much by great zeal and a spirit of combativeness. Hence the character was not complete, not well-rounded, but based too much upon a few faculties of the mind, which have reference chiefly to the individual. It is questionable whether any town in the region as a whole can present such elements of character, so marked in degree and commanding in influence.

The organization of man shows that he never was intended to live alone, or be confined to a single neighborhood. In this way his nature would never be fully developed. His relations to others, to society, and to humanity at large, must be taken into account. Neither was it ever intended that man should live for himself only, nor for his own family, nor for the present generation. In order to develop the highest kind of character, complete in all its parts, the true nature of man and his relations to others must be considered. In this way the highest Christian graces would take the lead, and constitute the crowning glory of all other attributes. Ignorance, prejudice, and selfishness would not be so conspicuous — certainly would not have a controlling influence.

One of the marked features of the character under discussion, is the high-toned sense of justice and human rights. It would seem as though every individual were constantly on the sharp lookout for his rights, personal and inalienable, to see that they were not trifled with, nor violated. Hence great interest was taken in the acts of government, national and

legislative, bearing on these points. In the history of no town in the state can there be found stronger advocates for human rights, for a free press and free speech. Illustrations under this head of great interest might be given, did time permit.

Growing out of this same organization there are elements of character that make their mark in other ways. This might show itself in the case of those leaving their native town to seek their fortune in other parts, or in the case of those who passed their lives at the old homestead. Here an immense work has been done, when we consider the almost insurmountable obstacles in the hills, the rocks and the trees that Nature had interposed in the way of cultivating the land. In these changes, it is impossible for us to realize the toils, the labors, and the sacrifices of these settlers.

In 1793, Peter Whitney, in his history of Worcester county, says: "In a little more than thirty years from its incorporation, Princeton has surprisingly increased in numbers and wealth. The finest of beef is fatted, and vast quantities of butter and cheese produced, and from the appearance of their buildings and farms, we must judge that the people are very industrious." In 1797, President Dwight, of Yale college, in his tour through New England, speaks of Princeton as a fine grazing town, and adds: "The houses of these inhabitants and the appearance of their farms are sufficient indications of prosperity, and the people are distinguished for industry, sobriety, and sound morals." Such testimonials, from such authorities, are certainly creditable to any town.

There is one other index of character, to which we have not alluded — that is, education. One of the first things these settlers attended to was the education of their children. Schools were early established throughout the town, were liberally supported, and as most of these settlers had large fami-

lies, there was no lack of children. In 1769, ten years after the incorporation of the town, there were one hundred and nineteen families, and they were divided into six divisions or school-districts, and the presumption is that some, if not most, of these schools were larger than they are at the present day.

The interest in higher education among a people is shown by the number sent to college. One hundred years ago the number of young men sent to college was comparatively small. Prior to 1800, six students from Princeton had graduated from college, and all became clergymen. Two of these, Leonard Woods and Thomas Mason, entered Harvard University in 1792, and graduated in 1796. They were described as large, well-proportioned, and good-looking, standing six feet in height. At that time wrestling was the great game in English Universities, and its spirit and practice had been thoroughly infused into the Harvard students. Wrestling as a game calls into exercise a greater number and variety of muscles than ball-playing or boat-rowing, and in order to excel, requires more skill, agility, and general strength than any other game.

One of these young men, Thomas Mason, possessed a remarkably strong and well-developed body, and had his muscles so thoroughly trained that he could lay under his feet any member of his class. In all games of this kind in the university he was sure to carry off the palm, having the name of being the best wrestler in the institution. The other student, Leonard Woods, excelled in brain-power. The class was said to possess an unusual number of promising students, but this one led the whole class in scholarship, and at the graduation gave the valedictory address. This student reached distinction in his profession, and in his department of study left a reputation unsurpassed at the time in the country. Several of the other Princeton students became distinguished in their day.

Let me refer to one born here as early as in 1761, who was the first person in town to become distinguished. Edward Savage had a genius for portrait painting. He had no books nor teacher, and was obliged to resort to the rudest materials for improving his skill and taste in painting. After experimenting thus for some years, he determined to try his fortune. He repaired to Philadelphia when General Washington was President of the United States, and solicited the favor of painting the Washington family. This he did very successfully, and as he could not find any engraver at the time, he engraved it himself. This painting was said to be one of the best ever taken of Washington, and such was the demand for it, that some ten thousand copies were soon disposed of for nine dollars apiece. This same young man was soon found in London, taking lessons in painting of Sir Benjamin West, and afterwards he spent some time in Italy as a pupil of the great masters of the art. Upon his return to this country he had for a while an office in New York, and then in Boston, and was one of the prime movers in establishing the New England museum. Writers who knew his history well, state that he had talents as a painter of high order, and with application he might have reached distinction, but attempted to do too many things. He died early and is buried in the western part of the town.

As another evidence of their interest in education, we refer to a library started here before 1790, which was one of the first in the state. Peter Whitney, in his history of Worcester county, in 1793, says: "In Princeton they have a very handsome social library established, of the value of upwards of £70 — ten pounds whereof were given by the Hon. Judge Gill." This library in honor of Judge Gill was called the "Gill Library." Whitney, in sketching fifty towns, then composing the county, alludes to the existence of only one other library,

and that was in Worcester. The inference is that these were the only two public libraries at that time in the county.

This library in Princeton was owned by shareholders, there being £60 contributed besides what Judge Gill gave. A rule was adopted that each shareholder should pay an annual tax of one shilling, and when not paid and the arrearage should reach five dollars, the shareholder forfeited his stock. Individuals outside of the stockholders were obliged to pay a small sum for the use of books. The number of shareholders in this library gradually became reduced, as well as the interest in it. In 1857 Mr. John Brooks bought this library for a nominal sum, and removed it to his house, which in 1873 was burnt, with the library, catalogue, records, etc.

Moses Gill, whose name is here introduced as Judge Gill, was the most distinguished citizen that ever lived in the town. In early life he was a merchant in Boston, and married the only surviving daughter of Rev. Thomas Prince, from whom Princeton derived its name. As the family possessed a large landed estate in the town, Mr. Gill removed here in 1767. During his residence of over thirty years he held most important offices. He represented the town many years in the legislature; he was judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Worcester county; was a member for some time of the governor's council, and in 1794 was elected lieutenant-governor, and on the death of Governor Sumner, in 1799, he acted as governor for six months, but he died in 1800, while holding the office of lieutenant-governor.

Upon the death of his first wife Mr. Gill married Miss Rebecca Boylston of Boston, which was the means of bringing Ward Nicholas Boylston to this town, who occupied the Gill place. He made his home here for nearly thirty years, and without exaggeration it may be said the Boylston home-

stead was the most notable place in Worcester county. His remains rest in a beautiful lot opposite the place of our meeting. While time will not allow further notice of Mr. Boylston, I wish to mention one fact. From intimate personal acquaintance in London with the celebrated Dr. John Hunter, and having had two uncles physicians, Mr. Boylston became greatly interested in medicine and in this profession. As evidence of this interest he made three liberal donations to Harvard university, to establish, 1st, a medical library; 2d, an anatomical museum; 3d, to furnish prize medals for the best essays on medical subjects, each one bearing the name "Boylston," now for over fifty years. After his death a distinguished writer referred thus to Mr. Boylston: "He has done more to raise the standard of the medical profession in this commonwealth than all others out of the medical profession."

Without occupying further time in discussing the history and character of the early settlers of the town, we come now to consider the objects which have brought us together: *The dedication of two new public buildings.*

I. BAGG HALL.

This building is intended to answer not only for a town-house, but for various other purposes. All public bodies, and especially towns, must have a set place for the transaction of business. The town of Princeton was incorporated Oct. 20, 1759, and the first meeting for organization was held Dec. 24, 1759, at the public house of Abijah Moore. The business of the town was transacted here till their first meeting-house was built in 1762, when the business was transferred to that place. Here it was continued till 1797, when upon the building of a new meeting-house the old one was disposed of. The town business was then removed to the Central school-house, situ-

ated on the hill near the church, where it was continued for forty-five years. But, in 1816, by a vote the name was changed from "school-house" to "town-house," and in 1818 Mr. Boylston gave \$500, which when sufficiently increased by interest was to be applied for building a new town-house. In 1842 this sum, with the interest at the time, was expended in erecting a new building at the foot of the hill, nearly opposite the new church.

This new building was called "Boylston Hall," after the name of the donor, and the business of the town was transacted there forty years, till the building was burnt in September, 1882. The town meetings were then held in Mr. Beaman's hall at the Wachusett house. In September, 1883, the town voted to build a new town-house; and at the March meeting, 1884, the following gentlemen were chosen as a building committee: I. F. Thompson, Rufus Davis, Nelson S. Howard, Henry F. Sanborn, and Moses H. Bullard. The architect, Mr. Earle, of Worcester, was the same who drew up the plan of the Memorial building. The committee entered upon their duties at once, and spent much time upon the work. The building was so far advanced that the first meeting for town business was held in it, in November, 1885, but it was not completed till within a few months. This hall is thoroughly built, is well proportioned, and finished inside with the best of material and in good taste. The whole building is a credit to the architect and to the committee. It is doubtful whether any small town in the state has a hall so convenient and so commodious for all local purposes.

In dedicating this new hall let us notice some of its advantages over the old town-house. That building was only one-story high, 64×40 feet in length and width, with a desk and platform, and the whole space occupied by one

large room. As it was built for town-meetings it was not used for much else, except an occasional fair, festival, or concert. The new building is two-stories high, with wide halls for entrance, two good-sized reception rooms, a convenient kitchen, and a dining-room sufficiently large to entertain a hundred guests. In the upper story is a large hall, seating conveniently four hundred persons, with gallery, settees, and stage, with curtain, side-shades, and all conveniences for lectures, concerts, tableaux, exhibitions, dramatic performances, etc. It is admirably adapted for all home entertainments, as well as for those introduced from abroad. It appears that since the hall was completed it has been in constant demand for some such purpose.

What, now, is to be the effect of such gatherings? By this acquaintance and social intercourse will not the young especially be united in sympathy, fellowship, and means of self-improvement? Will it not serve to attach the young more to the place and induce them to settle down at home rather than remove to the city? Is it not a natural, healthy development of a class of faculties that in the early history of the town were not sufficiently called into exercise? By bringing all classes together, making them better acquainted, creating common sympathies and interests, you increase their happiness and make them more contented with their lot. This harmonizes with the laws of physiology, inasmuch as it is calculated to secure a better development of both body and mind.

There is one advantage in this new hall that deserves special notice. The annual town-meetings in this place have always been well attended, and sometimes very exciting. Questions, personal and local, come up that call out warm discussions and at times lead to bitter controversy. These meetings are frequently protracted, consuming the whole

day. Now, by means of this kitchen convenience, a lunch is prepared by the ladies, so that the meeting can take an intermission while the speakers and voters attend to the wants of the stomach. This is a great improvement; will save much unpleasant feeling and bitter wrangling. It is said a full stomach makes a man good-natured; but how different the temper of those town-meetings on the hill, occupying all day, and half a mile away from any food!

We come now to the second public building for dedication, which is known as the

GOODNOW MEMORIAL BUILDING,

intended for a library, reading-room, and school.

Formerly libraries were confined almost wholly to institutions of learning. Men engaged in the different professions, and a few others of culture and wealth, collected books, for their own use, amounting sometimes to large libraries. The idea of providing books for free circulation and use among all classes, was never entertained till some fifty years ago. Horace Mann, in his great zeal for promoting the benefits of the common school, broached the idea of establishing a small library in every school district. In April, 1837, the legislature passed an act favorable to this theory. After an experiment of several years, in this direction, with partial success, so many difficulties arose in the way of its practical application, that the plan was abandoned.

In the meantime, very much interest had been awakened on the subject. The attention of thoughtful persons was directed to the plan of establishing free libraries under the management of cities and towns. Accordingly the legislature, in the winter of 1851, passed an act to "authorize cities and towns to establish and maintain free libraries." In this same year the city authorities of New Bedford voted to establish

a *free library*, and appropriated \$1,500 for this purpose. As this was the first municipal action on the subject, New Bedford has the credit of establishing the first *free city library*.

Hon. George S. Boutwell, in some remarks recently made at the dedication of a building for a town-library in Littleton, on referring to legislative action in 1851, said there were in the state prior to that time seven free libraries, started on the social plan and owned by clubs or associations, but which for various reasons had been opened free to the public. These were probably small libraries, with a very limited circulation, and could not be considered public free libraries in the same sense as those organized under the action of the legislature.

About this time Mr. Joshua Bates, of London, gave \$50,000 to the city library of Boston, which was the largest donation that had ever then been given in New England, exclusively for books. In his letter accompanying the gift, Mr. Bates refers to his early life in a rural town near Boston, stating how, when young, he felt the need of books, indicating that this had had a marked influence in prompting him to make so large a donation. This great library of Boston soon became free to all its inhabitants, and other cities followed the example.

This movement of establishing free public libraries was so popular that in cities and towns where there were school or social libraries, they became generally merged in one public library. For thirty years this question of establishing free libraries has steadily progressed, so that not only every city in the state has now a free public library, but more than three-fourths of the towns have such a library. Worcester county is highly favored, as all the towns in the county except three have a free library. The size of these libraries varies in the towns, ranging from two thousand to twelve thousand volumes, but in the cities they are much larger. In

most cases, provision is made for their steady increase, either by annual appropriation or by funds contributed for that purpose.

In the matter of educating the people, this introduction of free libraries is a very important movement. One great object of the Pilgrim Fathers was to educate the people, so that "good learning should not perish from among them." The establishment of common schools was regarded at the time as the most important agency for this purpose. For two hundred years in New England the common schools have been doing their work of educating the people. Now, as a supplement, comes the establishment of free public libraries in all our cities and in most of the towns. This is bringing, as it were, the school, the college, and the university to every man's door, whether he be rich or poor. No other nation or people on the globe was ever blessed with such advantages. Surely good learning should not perish among such a people.

These free public libraries are destined, we believe, to become powerful agents in the education of our people. Wherever they have been established they have infused into the community new interest and demand for books, and multiplied the number of readers. Publishers are complaining that they can not sell, as formerly, new books, even to professional men, as they resort now to free libraries for their reading. In fact, all classes are doing this more and more. The time is not far distant when these libraries will be considered a necessary part of public education, as much so as the common school, and must be supported in the same manner.

Connected with the establishment of these libraries a term has been appropriated very significant, viz., *Memorial*. It means a reminder or remembrance of something or somebody, stored deep in the memory. In other words, it is a kind of

living monument for some one gone before. Since our late civil war, halls, buildings, and monuments have been erected by friends, to memorialize the death and noble deeds of our soldiers. All this is becoming and praiseworthy; but still more so, when an individual by his own contributions, instead of erecting a marble monument or putting in stained windows, shall erect a library building, or endow a library, as a memorial of a lost friend. The former may please the eye and gratify the taste, but a library building and good books can be converted to most useful purposes. Where and when such a memorial for a lost friend was first brought into existence, and who the individual was that first projected the idea, or set the example, we can not find out; but whoever he may be, he should be held in everlasting remembrance! Love and affection for a lost relative which, consecrated in books, will diffuse everywhere useful knowledge, deserve the highest commendation. What a quiet, generous, and philanthropic way of doing good! The polished marble and the stained window may please a few, but even these must perish, while consecrated affection in books may exercise a blessed influence for generations, reaching even beyond this life.

It is not very many years since the first building was erected with the term "memorial" attached to it. In some instances, the memorial refers to the donor, in others, to a family or lost friends in general, while a few designate the name or names of the lost. Such is the case with the memorial building which we come this day to dedicate.

On the 1st of February, 1884, the following business transaction took place. The deed reads thus:

"I, Edward A Goodnow, in consideration of the good-will and affection which I bear to my native town of Princeton, hereby give, grant, and convey to said town, a certain lot of land, situated in the center of said town, with the

memorial building, which I have thereon erected in memory of my wives and only son, the descendants of an esteemed and honored family, long resident in said town, with the intent to establish a free public library and reading-room for the use and enjoyment of the inhabitants of said town of Princeton."

On the other side, at a meeting of the legal voters of the town, Feb. 7, 1884, these two resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"*Voted*, that the town gratefully acknowledges the considerate liberality of Mr. Goodnow, in the permanent provision for the educational interests of the present and future inhabitants of his native town, by the erection of an elegant, capacious, and commodious edifice for school and library purposes, amply furnished, and providing for its maintenance and use.

"*Voted*, that in accepting this donation, the town tenders its thanks to Mr. Goodnow, and pledges itself to pay particular attention to the edifice itself, and both objects to which it is devoted by the wishes and provisions of the donor."

The words here quoted say: "In consideration of the goodwill and affection I bear my native town, I present to it this memorial building, to be used for a library, reading-room, and school." The officers of the town, in accepting the gift and returning thanks to the donor for the same, pledge him that, in the care and uses of this building, they will faithfully carry out his intentions and bequests. We meet here to-day to ratify this transaction; to dedicate this building to the purposes intended; to consider on the one hand the propriety, the value, and sacredness of the gift, and on the other, the need, the appropriateness, and advantages of such a gift.

The building itself is an educator in the highest and broadest sense. Its site, overlooking an extended and diversified landscape; its beauties of architecture, in form, proportion, and taste; its conveniences for the purposes intended, and the thoroughness of construction—these can not be

described in language; they must be seen and studied. Its foundation is on a rock, where it will stand, we will not say *forever*, but as long as these hills and rocks retain their present position, it will stand as a monument to Mr. Goodnow's liberality.

In respect to education the provisions made seem to be just what were needed. Two schools—a primary and grammar—have been gathered in larger numbers and far pleasanter quarters than they ever have had before. The books distributed in three separate libraries in the town have been brought together and placed upon the shelves of a beautiful library-room. The whole number of books amount to nearly two thousand volumes, and a wise provision is made for an annual increase of new books. Add to this a reading-room supplied with newspapers and journals, which is a rare thing in a small country town. It is gratifying to know that there has been an increased demand for books and more reading, since these pleasant quarters were opened.

What stronger evidence of good-will to one's native place than the presentation of a building so beautiful, so capacious, and so useful as the one before us? How could one's affection for, and interest in, the welfare of the young be more strikingly manifested than in providing superior accommodations for public schools? Then, add to this, the most valuable of all treasures for the young—books; a free access to a large library! What is there more useful or more valuable to the young than good books? It is here, too, in these small country towns, with a scattered population, where such books are most needed.

In a rural town not twenty miles from this place, a gentleman of my acquaintance died, a few years since. When a boy, poor, living in this same town, he felt greatly the need of books, and read everything he could find. On reaching adult

age he went to a city, made money, and returned to die in his native place. After much reflection as to where and how his money would do the most good, he decided in favor of providing books for young men, and gave \$50,000 to Amherst college, the income of which only was to be expended in purchasing books for the use of students. While language can not express the good which this donation may do in that college, there is no question but that books are equally as much needed by the young in our rural districts. It will be readily admitted that from twelve to eighteen is the most critical period in the life of the young, when habits and opinions are formed which determine the character afterwards. This is the time, then, when good influences should be brought to bear upon the young, and free public libraries are just adapted for this purpose. But it is not the young only who would be benefited. How many invalids — how many women confined at home by domestic duties — to whom books will bring cheer and comfort! Then, what lessons of instruction and wisdom, what words of encouragement and hopes of a better life, may they bring to the care-worn and weary, to the lonely and disconsolate? In books we have the best thoughts of the dead and the living; in books we find the best of company, without distinction. In no other way can you be so highly and profitably entertained, and that free in your own homes.

It is impossible to realize how much greater the advantages for reading are at the present day over those of one hundred years ago. Many families then had not more than ten or twelve books, such as the Bible, the Psalms, the catechism, the spelling book, two or three other school books, and, perhaps, "Robinson Crusoe," "Pilgrim's Progress," "Fox's Martyrs," etc. Where there were children these were read, over and over. Within a few years books have multiplied in a most surprising manner; so have periodicals and newspapers of all kinds.

Let us make a contrast. Sixty years ago this very year, I walked repeatedly six miles to obtain a book from the Gill library, which was kept in the dwelling house of Rev. Mr. Clark. It was not a free library, but owned by shareholders, and outsiders were obliged to pay a small sum for the loan of a book. It was a small library of some two hundred volumes, kept in a book-case standing on one side of a sitting-room. But how different are the present advantages of reading for young people in this town! Look at your beautiful building provided with a library of two thousand volumes already on its shelves, and a well-furnished reading-room attached, and all this FREE! Language can not well describe the difference.

There is another point of view which deserves notice. In a country town like this, there may be some young man or young woman having special gifts or genius for this or that branch of study; suppose this individual is thirsting for knowledge on that particular subject—that he is looking to catch some new ideas, some new views, etc. What a boon is such a library to him! A single book may change his whole course of life!

Let me give the names of two young men, within my own recollection, who inherited remarkable inventive talents. The names of these young men were Davis—Ari and Daniel. After displaying unusual mechanical skill and ingenuity at their home here, they opened a shop and rooms in Boston. In two most important branches of science they took the lead in point of discovery and knowledge over any other men in the United States. For years their office in Boston was visited by the savans of science from far and near. In prosecuting their inquiries and inventions they came very near making the two most brilliant discoveries of the age, and in one there was some question of priority in the invention.*

*Sewing machine.

But, even as it was, had these men secured patents on all their inventions, and stuck to their business, they might have become *millionaires*. Had these young men in early life had the training of the present day, and the advantages of such a library as the young in Princeton now have, they might have been more successful. But there still may be lads coming upon the stage in this town, possessing a genius or high order of talent, thirsting for knowledge—to such young persons what a blessing will this library be!

There is another advantage that may be derived from this library—that is, to attach young people to their native place. It may operate thus in different ways. The minds of the young naturally crave for knowledge of some kind, the same as the stomach does for food. A good assortment of books that can be had at any time, and read at convenience or leisure, meets just this want. By the use of books the young become better informed as to past and present history, and as to what is going on in the world. They learn the successes and failures of others, the risks of business, and the changes everywhere occurring. These facts lead them to reflect and consider, as well as compare their situation with others and inquire if, all things taken into account, they are not best off at home. The more intelligent young people become, the wiser is their action, and the more contented are they with their lot. One means of getting attached to a place is not only the advantages it possesses, but the large circle of friends and acquaintances that one makes.

Again: there is another point which should not be passed by unnoticed. The greatest income, and most important business of the town, aside from its farming interest, arises from the entertainment of summer company. Now this library and reading-room must constitute an attraction to draw people here from year to year. This class of people have a large

supply of books and newspapers at their homes, and if they can find the same things here, it is an attraction. Just so far as the inhabitants are thus benefited, Mr. Goodnow is a benefactor.

While making this reference, let me say a word in respect to the place as a health resort. Nowhere in the state can there be found purer air, purer water, purer soil. These are the primary conditions of good health. No town in the state can present as much natural scenery, so beautiful, so picturesque, so romantic, and at the same time, with a landscape so large and diversified. All statistics, past and present, show that it is one of the healthiest towns in the state. The place has been well patronized for many years, and that, too, by the best of company. And what affords a strong recommendation in its favor, is that the same company return here year after year.

There is still a broader and higher view of the subject. The advantages connected with the two buildings which we this day dedicate, are destined, we believe, in time to have a marked influence upon the habits and character of this people. The very buildings themselves are educators. They afford occasion and conveniences of bringing people together in contact with one another. Here all classes, both young and old, can meet on common ground and become acquainted with individuals from all parts of the town.

In this way the social faculties particularly will be developed and brought into pleasant and harmonious exercise. Questions, local and general, will naturally come up for discussion, the views and opinions of different persons will be compared, and an opportunity be given to see things from different points of view. Add to this, free access to books journals, and newspapers, such a community will become intelligent and conversant with what is going on in society

and the world. Thus not only the social affections will find a better development, but every part of the brain, or in other words, all the faculties of the mind, will be brought into more intelligent and harmonious action.

In the former part of this address, certain elements in the character of the settlers of the town were pointed out as too predominant, as based upon a few faculties, so that the character was not complete, not well rounded. The fault arose partly from the times, and partly from the situation and circumstances of these settlers. Their point of observation and range of knowledge were quite limited, and the subjects with which they had to deal were chiefly personal. Since that time great changes have taken place in the state of society, in the modes of doing business, as well as in educational and religious matters. With these changes and improvements, the generation coming upon the stage should do far better—should develop a broader, higher, and more harmonious character. No man should live for himself or his family alone, but perform the duties which he owes to others—to his fellow-beings everywhere. In this way only can his nature be fully developed, and his character rounded out and made complete. In this way only can he secure the greatest amount of happiness and reach the high standard which true civilization and Christianity demand.

There is a saying, that “whoever causes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before, is a benefactor to the world.” All people can readily appreciate the value of an increased quantity of grass, but how much greater is the value of an increase of knowledge! How much higher and purer the pleasures and enjoyments of the mind over those of the body! What contributes more to the comfort, contentment, and happiness of a people, than useful knowledge? And where can this intelligence, this knowledge, be obtained so

well as from good books? Is he not a benefactor who furnishes the means for such information? But in your library building there is something besides books; you have a large clock, and a bell with fine-sounding tones, and upon that bell is inscribed this motto:

“Knowledge is Power.”

Yes, there is a meaning in that phrase — knowledge is power. There is no other power in the world equal to it. Knowledge has been a power in this town. Let it be increased and multiplied tenfold. And whenever you hear the sounds of that bell, remember this motto, “Knowledge is Power.”

Never in the history of the world have there been so many and so large contributions made for educational purposes as within a few years. This is an encouraging sign that men of means are looking more and more to see how or in what way they can do the most good with their money. It is also a gratifying fact, that some of them are disposed to do this as executors of their own estates, and thus while living have the satisfaction and enjoyment of witnessing the fruits of their benevolence. We have a most remarkable instance of this liberality in our own vicinity, an individual giving to the city of Worcester for education \$1,000,000, the largest sum that was ever given for this purpose by any one person in New England — and if this is not sufficient, he promises still more! With pride we add that Jonas G. Clark, the donor, was born in the hill-town of Hubbardston, only a few miles from the place of our meeting.

Of all cities in the United States we think it can be justly said that Worcester, in point of educational advantages, stands pre-eminent. It has already ten free public libraries, with over two hundred thousand volumes on their shelves. It has, besides, city schools of the first class, a model high school, a

state normal school, a seminary for young ladies, an academy, a college, a free institute of technology, and now is to have a great university! For many years Worcester has been called the "Heart of the Commonwealth." With such advantages as these the time may not be far distant when it will deserve to be called the "Head of the Commonwealth!" The towns surrounding Worcester may come in for quite a share of this renown, as that city is indebted for some of its best blood to these same towns.

But these same towns are not forgotten by their sons and the friends of education. Since Mr. Goodnow made known his intentions to remember his native place, four towns in this immediate vicinity, viz., Sterling, Gardner, Barre, and Holden, have in this way been provided with memorial buildings for a library. Let this noble work go on till not only every town in the county, whether located upon the hills or in the valleys, shall be supplied with a *memorial library* and this whole region shall be illuminated with the light of knowledge, but till there shall be enduring monuments in the form of *memorial libraries* in every town in New England!



AFTER THE COLLATION

At the conclusion of the Dedicatory Address the assembled company proceeded from the church to Bagg Hall and there partook of a collation. Then, after viewing the interiors of the Hall and the Memorial Building, they returned to the church and gave attention to the Remarks and Addresses which here follow.

My Goodenow Wife

BY HON. GEORGE M. STEARNS

Although a minister's son, I have never before spoken from the pulpit. I was often in my youth put there to keep me still, but never before with the deliberate design of having me make a noise. I was assigned the sentiment of "The President of the United States," and sat in profound thought considering what possible relation the President, either personally or officially, had to this occasion. Not being able to discover any, I turned to that fountain of aid and comfort which every wise man secures, to wit, his wife, and asked mine what under the sun I could say for the President. She replied that the President had no business with these dedication services, and that as she was a born Princeton girl, and a Goodnow, and a niece of the giver of these "good and perfect gifts," she thought this once I might speak for her. Remembering the recently created relation of the President with that lovely lady who is properly called "the first lady of the land"—for the wife of the President of the United States is the first lady of all lands—and believing he would advise me to do as my wife requested, like a well trained husband I acceded to her wish. She was born and bred in Princeton, her father and her mother were born and bred here, and her father's father also, and I have not dared explore the misty past too

remotely to ascertain the connection of the Goodnows with Princeton; but it might turn out that Wachusett was the genuine Ararat on which the patriarch's ark rested upon the subsidence of the waters, and that amidst the noses that peered therefrom there was many a bad nose among the Goodnows that doubtless emerged upon the mountain top, and that the plaudits of those who love the good and praiseworthy might be overwhelmed by the anathemas of those who detest the unholy and pestilential. But without going back to primeval chaos or the diluvian period, it is plain she is a Princeton girl "of purest ray serene," and fully entitled to a seat near the head of the table when the M'Gregors meet in the high lands. And I am very proud to strut here today in borrowed plumes, and to glisten with reflected radiance as prince consort to this Princeton queen of the royal house of Goodnow.

She asks me to say for her, that she has not forgotten the beautiful town of her nativity; that neither here nor across the seas has she ever looked upon any scene that seemed so lovely to her as the sunrise breaking upon these mountain tops at dawn, and the shadows creeping up their darkening sides at evening:

That nowhere has she found friends so beloved as the playmates of her youth and the neighbors that were about her in her early years:

That no light has ever shone upon her face so serenely as that which beamed from the old hearth-stone, when her father and mother and brothers, now in their graves, and she, sat around it, the long winter evenings at home:

That she is very glad to return upon this interesting occasion of the dedication of these splendid buildings, their foundations resting upon the eternal rocks upon which she has so often played:

That she is proud they should have come from the munificent hand and generous impulses of her father's brother, and that long after he and she are dead and gone they will stand an enduring memorial to their name, associating it with honor, enterprise, education, progress, generosity and beneficence.

I have been deputed by Mr. Goodnow to say, in his behalf, that he thanks the people of Princeton for their many and pleasant attentions to him, for the kindness with which they have forwarded his purposes, and the intelligence with which they have appreciated his designs. That akin to the hope that these instrumentalities may accomplish all the good for this town he has intended, exists the further hope that in the hearts of this people and of those who may hereafter be born here, there may be cherished a tender recollection of him who so loved and regarded his and their birth-place.

The Glory of Princeton

BY HON. GEORGE F. HOAR

I do not think the occasion requires us to attempt to add anything to the excellent historic address of the morning. I bring to Princeton the congratulation and sympathy of the city of Worcester. We are very proud of our county with its fair cities and towns, its beautiful scenery, its intelligent people. But we have a little warmer feeling toward Princeton than toward any other. She is the diamond in our circlet of gold. Here, where the mountain joins the plain is the home of poetry and romance. Within your bounds is the spot where Mrs. Rowlandson was ransomed, and where we get almost the last glimpse of the mighty Philip, before he and the last organized Indian power disappeared forever from New England before the white man. But this region has been the home of something better than poetry and romance. If you cannot recite a catalogue of illustrious names of men of whom this is the birth-place, your whole people have borne a full and honorable share in the country's history. These hills and rocks have been the gymnasia of heroes. The race that has breathed this air has never failed in its allegiance to liberty.

In the mountains is Freedom; the breath of the vales
Rises not up to the pure mountain gales.

The farmers in these bleak mountain homes discussed the great questions of human rights. It is said the published

history of the town is largely taken up with church quarrels. But your fathers applied the stern logic with which they debated of

“Providence, foreknowledge, will and fate,
Fixed fate, free will, foreknowledge absolute,”

to the more intelligible matter of their rights and duties to the state. The Declaration of Independence and the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights were never accepted here as a mere statement of their own rights, but as a statement of their duties to other men. When the fugitive slave law was passed, they said that, come what might, the slave that came among them should not be given up.

If these hills have not reared great men, they have fostered the influences that have produced great men. Just over the line in Westminster was born and bred the grandfather of President Garfield. About as far off in the other direction, and almost within our sight is the dwelling of Rufus Putnam, a man who, in my judgment, contributed more to the life of this country than any other, except Washington and Jefferson. After the revolutionary war, in which, as you know, he was the ablest of our military engineers, he settled in Rutland, where he planned the settlement of the Northwest. He was appointed surveyor of that territory, but recommended Gen. Tupper, an old army comrade, to act in his stead. Gen. Tupper reported to Putnam at Rutland, where the two friends sat together through the whole night, and at day-break issued the call for the meeting where the Ohio company was organized. They instructed their agent to congress, Manasseh Cutler, to insist that human slavery should not be allowed within the territory; that schools and the institutions of religion should be established, and that contracts should be held inviolate. They would not take the land upon other conditions. Putnam was chosen superintendent, and led the first colony to

the settlement at Marietta. When Gen. Putnam walked out of that home now standing at the foot of Rutland hill, in sight of this church, Empire, Freedom, Honor, Glory, Virtue, the Happiness of untold millions, the Destiny of America, went with him as he crossed the threshold. But for him and his companions, the five great states which comprise the land that once was the Ohio territory, would today have been the home of human slavery, America would have been a great slave empire, and New England a hunting ground for its fugitives.

One especial contribution made by these small country towns to the government of the commonwealth ought never to be forgotten. That is their contribution to the jury-box. Under our system, the happiness and prosperity of every community in time of peace will depend on its juries, on which in the last resort the safety of all rights of person and property and the preservation of public order must depend. A great part of my life has been spent in court-houses. I have studied carefully the influences which affected the administration of justice, and the character and quality of the men who sat on juries. I declare it as the result of my experience that the old Worcester County farmers, taken man by man, as you would find them on the back roads in the thinly settled portions of our smaller country towns, made better jurors than any other class of men with whom I have been acquainted. They were intelligent, patient, just, independent and conscientious.

I agree with almost every thing in the admirable address we heard this morning. I do not think, with Dr. Allen, that Lieutenant Governor Gill was the greatest man of whom Princeton may boast. Judge Gill was a successful politician, a man of intelligence and public spirit, who discharged credit-

ably and respectably some important offices. But I should more highly esteem Leonard Woods, the prophet, the father of prophets, the teacher of prophets, who was born in Princeton. I am afraid Dr. Allen will disagree with me, although I think every one who heard him will agree with me, in valuing more highly his own life, filled as it has been with conspicuous service to humanity and science. We all hope he has many a year of intellectual vigor left.

The Church

BY REV. A. A. MINER, D. D.

On what grounds your grace has permitted me to participate in the festivities of this occasion, I know not. I am not a citizen of Princeton either by birth or adoption. None of my ancestors, so far as I know, have been Princetonians. But if I may indulge the poetic license adopted by George MacDonald in answering the question —

“Where did you come from, baby dear?
Out of the everywhere into here” —

then I am a Princetonian from head to foot, and am glad to share with you the satisfactions of the hour. I cannot hope to emulate the interest elicited by the gentlemen who have preceded me, and shall attempt neither the refined facetiousness of the one nor the comprehensive historic statements of the other.

Few if any occasions of greater importance could challenge our presence and attention. A free public library is a supplementary educational institution, and may become an almost limitless source of blessing. Successive generations of your youthful population may commune with the wise and good of all ages, and from the summit of an “exceeding high mountain” survey “all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them.”

They will soon learn the wide differences in value of different topics of study. There is a vastly disproportionate amount of time at present spent upon the lower and merely secular aims of life. There is a whole world of facts, in the physical history of the earth, for example, in the distribution of mountains, rivers, bays and capes, and the like, useful upon occasions, but useless in the ordinary needs and relations of life; while whatever in science or in history exhibits the divine perfections on the one hand, or the moral character of man on the other, cannot fail to lift up and ennoble our souls. It is for such results the Church everywhere stands.

Truth is the statement of principles. Principles are absolute, universal, immortal. They reach from highest heaven to lowest hell, wherever the latter may be located. They environ us and pervade our very being. For a time they may be disregarded and denied; but they are sure to assert themselves at length and command attention and respect. Who would think of making war on the multiplication table? What if a powerful nation like England should organize a mathematical conspiracy against mankind, and determine that four and four shall be fifteen? All their book-keeping and business transactions based on that assumption would be a gross injustice to themselves or to somebody else. This is very palpable.

Scarcely less palpable is the fact that idleness and profligacy tend to poverty. It is equally certain, whether as clearly perceived or not, that all injustice tends to overthrow. All the invisible forces and ground swell of the universe are in league with righteousness against iniquity. Hence truth and right will prevail; error and wrong will go to the wall. Men value the things they can see—flocks, herds, lands, stocks, whatever bears a price in the market place. Mountains, they

admit, are powerful barriers to human purpose; but of what consequence is a principle? The truth is, principles are infinitely more powerful than the most solid of mountains. We can tunnel a mountain; but who ever tunneled a principle? Our fathers tried it in compromising with slavery; but they did not take the law of conscience into the account, and the scheme miscarried. The same thing is in progress today. There is an intolerable audacity in the governments of the earth, which assume that the petty schemes of men, though not altogether right, will prove more serviceable in practice than the fundamental laws of God; as though the Creator did not know what he was about.

In opening up to the view of the young the deepest principles of life, nothing can take the place of properly written biography and history. These lay bare the motives of action, the deeps of social influence, the sources of power. The suggestions of the morning address are exceeding valuable in this regard. Perhaps the best means of multiplying our sources of blessing, in this direction, may be found in town histories. As our municipalities gain a broader background through the lapse of time, giving to individual character a more accurate perspective, these histories are likely to become more numerous and our libraries thereby correspondingly enriched.

From this point of view, we cannot value too highly the local free libraries springing up on every hand. The more they are frequented, the more will books in general be prized; and the love of books is in no small degree the foundation of greatness. The late Rev. Thomas Baldwin Thayer, D. D., when a lad resident in South Boston, walking daily to School street for instruction, was furnished by his widowed mother, from her scanty purse, means

for his mid-day meal. Seeing him returning one day with certain huge and long-coveted volumes in his arms, she instantly called him to account for the treasures, for the possession of which she saw no honest means at his command. Her alarm was changed to admiration when she learned that he had taxed his stomach to enlighten his mind. What inestimable good would result if the youth of our land would but tax simply their corrupt and corrupting appetites for a like noble end.

It is narrated of Frederiek the Great that he furnished his five principal palatial residences with libraries the exact duplicates of each other. When he bought a new book, he purchased five copies of it, all bound richly and alike, and distributed them among his several libraries. Then he divided his books into two classes, the one to be only cursorily examined, the other to be carefully studied. On laying down a volume of the latter class, he would note specifically the place he had reached, and resume his studies at the same place in the corresponding volume of the library to which he removed. Such a student may easily be supposed to be entitled to the appellation of "Great."

But I must not detain you. This is my first visit to your renowned municipality, with which I am glad to become even slightly acquainted; and I have no hesitation in adopting the language of the Queen of Sheba on her visit to King Solomon: "The half was not told me."

Votive Offerings

BY HON. JOHN E. RUSSELL

Those who have preceded me have left little to be said. The field has been both reaped and gleaned.

I can but congratulate this fine old town on its prosperous and bright appearance, and rejoice with you that so much has been added to its attractiveness.

Of late years the life of this community has been greatly quickened by the large numbers of wealthy and refined people from the cities drawn here to enjoy the unsurpassed scenery and bracing air of these glorious hills, and it is well that a generous son of Princeton has so richly added to the attractions of the place and made such a permanent contribution to the social advancement of this community.

In the score of years that I have lived in Worcester County there have been some interesting social changes, and one of them is the great increase of private wealth in all parts of the country; this has been happily accompanied by a notable tendency of men enriched by various enterprises to return to the villages of their birth and make those remote and sometimes poor and declining communities sharers of the results of their industry and enterprise. It thus happens that in several of the towns of this county the votive offerings of grateful sons has taken the form of a memorial building that in each case contains a library free to all readers. Sometimes this

offering is in pious remembrance of a family whose members sleep amid the scenes of their labors and whose name is but a fading tradition.

I believe that these memorials will be gratefully cherished by the towns, kept in constant repair, the libraries used, replenished and augmented; and may we not expect that they will be shrines where other offerings will be made, so that they will grow in usefulness.

Referring to the solid and permanent character of these buildings and the similar traits in this people, Dr. Allen said this morning that they would last as long as the rocks upon which they are founded.

If so, they will endure until "the elements melt with fervent heat and the heavens are rolled together as a scroll"; but may we not say that while this generation will pass away in its due time, and these buildings like all the works of men will crumble, the memorial here dedicated will endure while freedom lives among these hills, while our social and civil system remains, while sentiments of justice, honor and gratitude prevail in the hearts of this people, while Massachusetts itself stands.

No one can exaggerate the importance of a good public library. It is a school that is never closed, where those who study are of the class that can instruct themselves; to whom the fact that they can read has placed in their power the key to all learning. For them the door of the vast temple of knowledge is open, and they may freely enter and possess the richest treasures that it contains.

I believe that the time is not far distant when ephemeral writings, the works of the day, and especially the current fiction which the press pours upon the public, will not be circulated from our libraries; that they will contain only the books

that time has approved, and works profitable for instruction. Such libraries will be saved from the fate of dispersion that impends over all private collections of books. When a library is transferred to a permanent institution, a collection of books flourishes in immortal youth, and remains for the instruction and delight of children's children.

It is, Sir [addressing Mr. Goodnow], your happy fortune to see in your own day the good use of your munificence, to execute your own will in your own way, to look in the grateful faces of your contemporaries, to build a monument more enduring than brass that will keep your memory sweet and green "far on in summers that we shall not see."

The Bookworm

BY PROF. FRANK J. GOODNOW

When the committee so kindly asked me to speak before you today on the subject of the Bookworm I must confess I was somewhat appalled. I felt very much as a school-boy feels when asked by his teacher to write a composition on some such interesting subject as the horse or the cow. Indeed, the position in which I was placed brought to my mind very vividly a story that Mr. Gough used to tell with great effect in his lectures on temperance. It was about a boy who wrote a composition on pins, and who, after graphically describing the pin and its method of manufacture, ended his masterpiece with the words: "Pins are very useful things; they have saved thousands of lives." The teacher, somewhat surprised, said, "Johnnie, what is that? how have pins saved thousands of lives?" "Why, by not swallowing them, sir." Well, ladies and gentlemen, I feel that the only way in which I can say anything that will interest you today on the subject of the Bookworm is by not saying anything at all about him. The eccentricities of the bookworm are so many, and his character is usually so peculiar, that many regard him as an altogether useless member of society, and consider any description that may be given of him as time and effort wasted in an endeavor to clothe an unattractive subject with the graces to which it has no claim. And yet

the bookworm has a most important mission to fulfill. It is to him that we owe most of our knowledge of our past history. It is the men of his class who have done more than any others to preserve the instruments of knowledge. I am perfectly well aware that his habits are such as to cause him to be the butt of ridicule. I know that to the more practical of you it seems often that he wastes his time in the discussion of the most useless questions. Still we must all remember that the usefulness of a subject is not always apparent. Perhaps the best examples of the bookworm that the world has ever shown are to be found in the scholastic philosophers, who, during the darkness of the middle ages devoted their time to the preservation and perusal of musty manuscripts, and, though revered by the pious minded on account of the sanctity of their profession, were still laughed and jeered at by many of the people because of the foolish questions which they discussed with such force and ingenuity of argument. The discussion of such questions as "How many angels can dance at the same time on the point of a needle?" or as "If an ass were placed midway between two stacks of hay of equal size would he ever move?" does not seem to be capable of producing any good whatever. And yet it is without doubt a fact that we owe to these very men a debt that we can never hope to repay. It was they who conducted the schools in which the young awakening mind of Europe received its first training and gained its earliest strength. The apparently useless discussions into which they entered sharpened the wits of the men of the time, and kept among a people, who were, for the most part, given over to war and violence, some activity of thought, and prepared the way for the great revival of learning that soon followed, and finally for the great reformation. It was the famous scholastic philoso-

pher and teacher, Peter Abelard, who was accustomed to teach his scholars that "We should not believe unless we first understand"—a maxim which must finally lead to freedom of thought. It is the modern representatives of the bookworm who prevent us at present from falling into the error of considering the practical and the tangible as the only useful things, and from forgetting that knowledge is not always to be judged by the immediate effect which it produces before our own eyes.

For these reasons it is, ladies and gentlemen, that the subject of the bookworm has been granted a place on today's order of exercises. For our object in assembling here today is to celebrate the dedication of a building whose main purpose is to promote the cause of education, but which is also to furnish a repository for the library which the citizens of Princeton have collected with so much pains, and which now has a residence worthy of it. It is by the foundation of such buildings as this that the mission of the bookworm in the world is recognized and his far from easy task lessened, and the generous men to whom we owe such buildings as this will win the gratitude not only of the present generation of bookworms but of their successors for all time to come.

The Princeton Clergy

BY REV. WILLIAM T. BRIGGS

The history of this ancient town begins with the clergy. "It was called Prince Town to perpetuate the name and memory of Rev. Thomas Prince, colleague pastor of the Old South Church, Boston." Also she is the fruitful mother of twenty-one clergymen, three of whom were doctors of divinity. Others deserved to be, but after bravely fighting to win the prize, failed.

I am to speak for the clergy—for the clergy generally, and for those of Princeton in particular.

I do not say that the clergy are or have been above suspicion, but as a class they have been and are sound on moral questions, and pioneers in every genuine moral reform.

The old colonial record says, "They were consulted on all matters pertaining to the civil affairs of the New England colonies, and they had the controlling influence in forming and directing the civil government. The very first written code of laws for Massachusetts, under the charter of 1629, was drawn up by a minister." Said Governor Winthrop: "They have great power in the people's heart. Religion ruled the State through its ministers." It used to be said of John Cotton, that what he preached in his Thursday evening lecture shaped the doings of the General Court. You see these sturdy men "dabbled in politics"—not as partisans, but as citizens.

The historian says: "No class of men contributed more to carry forward the revolution and achieve our independence, than did the ministers of that grand era of liberty. Their pulpits rang with the notes of freedom. They taught their hearers to reject with abhorrence the divine right of kings, and held that all civil power is originally with the people. John Adams said of a sermon by Rev. Mr. Mayhew, "It was the morning gun of the revolution." Writing from Philadelphia to his wife in Quincy, he said: "Does our pastor preach and pray against oppression and the cardinal vices of the times? The clergy here of all denominations thunder and lighten every Sabbath." Their patriotism stood the test. They did more than preach and pray; they entered the army, and on the battlefield stood side by side with the enlisted soldier. In the burial ground of the First Presbyterian church in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, is a monument in memory of the pastor, Rev. James Caldwell, whose patriotic spirit well represented the clergy of that day. He was immensely popular, yet among Tories his life was at risk, so that while preaching the gospel of peace to his people, he thought it wise to lay his loaded pistols by his side in the pulpit.

In an engagement near his own town, he was in the hottest of the fight, and seeing the fire of one of the companies slacken for want of wadding, he galloped to the Presbyterian meeting house near by, and rushing in, ran from pew to pew, filling his arms with hymn books. Then hastening back, he scattered them about in every direction, saying as he pitched one here and another there, "*Now, boys, put Watts into them.*"

The same spirit in a milder form showed itself when Cornwallis surrendered. A messenger rushed into one of the churches in the midst of the morning service, ran up the

pulpit stairs and handed the despatch to the minister. He read it. His heart was full, but his stiff Puritan notions clung to him like a closely fitting garment. He read the despatch to his congregation. "Now," said he, "this is the Sabbath day, this is the house of God, it will not do to give three cheers, but let us go through with the motions." And they did.

Princeton, during her ecclesiastical history has enjoyed a pleasing variety of fifteen pastors of the Congregational church, the average length of each pastorate being eight years.

The first settled minister in the town was Rev. Timothy Fuller, Sept. 9th, 1767. He was made of stern stuff, and having as we say a mind of his own, could hardly fail of making enemies. A true patriot, he was nevertheless charged with being a tory, and some of you will remember a speech of his grandson in this place in 1859, in which he gave this specimen of the groundless charges preferred against him. At the commencement of the revolutionary war, at a town meeting in the midst of great excitement, a man rose and cried out, "I know that Mr. Fuller is not a christian, and I know too that he is a tory, for" said he, "I caught hold of him suddenly, the other evening, and he turned upon me in surprise, exclaiming, '*By George, let me alone!*' A man who swears can't be a christian. He must have meant *George the Third*, and to swear by *him* makes it certain that he is a tory."

At the Centennial celebration here in 1859, the clerk of your committee said, "The test of principle is to disagree with our immediate cotemporaries when conscience bids. Mr. Fuller," he said, "did this and proved his superiority. He was a moral Wachusett, crowned with the light of opposite centuries,"

The clergy of Princeton have been godly men. I am not aware that any have been lodged in the penitentiary, or have committed an offence worthy of stripes. One only has *seemed* to depart from the faith of the fathers, and I have long ago made up my mind, that the apparent departure was not real.

Rev. Samuel J. May, whom I once knew intimately, and I may say more than any man I ever met seemed to live in the very atmosphere of heaven, was openly identified with the Unitarian faith. He held extreme views on the peace question. Once he met William Ladd, the great apostle of the American Peace Society, who also was a rigid Calvinist of the ultra Puritan type. They met one evening at the Marlboro' hotel, Boston. Discussing, as they naturally would, the peace question, they were a unit. They then slid into theology and were *not* a unit. On vital doctrines they measured lances, and kept up the discussion till a late hour; of course in a very catholic and courteous spirit. When Mr. May rose to leave, Mr. Ladd followed him to the door: "Now" said he, "brother May, if I could only cut your *head* off, you would go to heaven," i. e.: your *heart* is all right, the only difficulty is in your *head*.

He is not the only Unitarian, I am happy to believe, who in words denies the divinity of Christ, but gives practical proof of belief in it, by breathing his spirit and obeying his commands. Neither do I believe that with him and many like him it was necessary to lose the head in order to save the heart.

I am to speak for the ministers of *Princeton*, and hence cannot forget to go where much water is. Five pastors have been settled over the Baptist Church, all good shepherds, leading their flocks into pastures as green as could be expected in a mountain town.

Worthy Methodist pastors have grazed upon these bleak hills. They have followed each other in quick succession — about as difficult to enrol as were the armies of Israel.

On the whole we think Princeton will bear testimony to the general purity and power of her ministry. Sound in doctrine, outspoken on moral questions — fairly so — spiritual guides whom in the main it was safe to follow; they were more than religious teachers. They recognized the pillars of our national prosperity, and were closely identified with the educational interests of the town. They loved to connect the church spire and the school-house and foster whatever was uplifting to a community.

The old church, which for so long a period threw her smile over this common, with a grace all her own, gives place to this beautiful structure, with its library of more than two thousand volumes and its commodious schools — the munificent gift of one who is fast transmuting his earthly wealth into eternal gold. The clergy of Princeton, the living and the dead, could they speak, would say: "Let this which this man hath done be told here and everywhere as a memorial of him."

The Princeton Quadrilateral

BY HON. CHARLES THEODORE RUSSELL

Nothing today has so carried me back to our earlier boyhood days, as your call upon me at this time, Mr. President.

Now, as in those days, it is the "old, old story" of the younger brother getting into scrapes and difficulties, and calling upon the elder to help him out. With the resources at your command today, I am sure you have the least excuse for the exercise of this old habit, but still, I suppose I must respond to your call. I have often admired the grace, wit, and elegance of our friend, ex-District Attorney Stearns' after-dinner speeches, and wondered whence he drew his charming inspiration. The secret is all confessed today. It seems that, on some of these occasions, at least, he consults his wife — and she was a Princeton girl. My only fear is that, after this confession, emulating his success, we shall have other Stearnses around by the "soft light of the winter fire-side" or under the unheeded "creaking of the village inn sign," seeking other Princeton girls. They might go further and fare a good deal worse.

Not long since, I read an account of a purchaser who went into the shop, on Chatham Street, of an Israelite without guile, to purchase a coat. Negotiation began by the seller's asking \$45.00, and ended by his taking \$2.50. The purchaser took

the coat home, and, upon unrolling it, met a terrible eruption of millers and moths. He at once took it back and demanded of the seller his \$2.50. "Vhat ish de matter mit de coat?" said the seller. "Why, it is full of moths and millers," said the buyer. "Moths and millers!" said the Jew, "vell, vhat did you expect for \$2.50, 'umming birds?"

As in your programme you have now come down through senators, members of congress, philanthropists, to the \$2.50 men, I take it nobody will expect "'umming birds," and you will be lucky indeed if, from this venerable garment, hung in the rays of the setting sun, and blown through by the breezes of the fading twilight, you get anything but moths and millers.

But badinage aside, I am very glad to be here, and to join with my fellow citizens in acknowledging the debt of gratitude we owe to my friend and distant relative, Mr. Goodnow, for his generosity and far seeing benevolence. By his action, and that of the church and town, you have reared and ranged in simple contiguous lines, structures which symbolize the great institutions which, always existing in protoplasm at least, have now become the grand evolution of New England—the Church, the School, the Town Meeting, and the Library—representing religion, education, self-government, intelligence and stability. The structures of a people mark its institutions; in them all their history crystallizes and may be read. Pass up the beautiful Rhine, thread the canals of Venice, go through the quadrilateral of Italy; you will look on castles, forts, churches, even, and see much to admire. And yet it is but the outgrowth of feudalism, oppression, intolerance, war:

"Man's inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn,"

as Burns has truly said.

With more grateful emotions we turn to the little quadrilateral on the lawn of our mountain home. Upon one corner stands the simple church with its open doors; on the other the town hall—emblem of popular liberty—and between the two, supporting both, the school and the library; and this, you say, and may well say, is our quadrilateral against our foes, present and future.

Some years ago, standing in the Fort of St. Elmo, which overlooks the city of Naples, when that beautiful city was held in subjection only by the cannon of King Bomba, and before the great Cavour had brought freedom and unity to Italy, I noticed all the guns of the fort were pointed, not outwardly for external, but inwardly as for an internal enemy. I asked the Italian soldier who accompanied me what this meant, whether they expected all their enemies from within, and not from without? He made me no answer, except a suggestive Italian shrug of his shoulders. I told him in America we always looked for the enemy from without, and placed our guns accordingly. But in such fortifications as you rear today, I am not sure that I was right; their armaments are pointed within and without, and will meet and overcome all foes, whether from without or within, in the present or the future.

Dr. Allen has said in his excellent address, which interested us all so much, that one of the striking characteristics of the settlers and inhabitants of the town has been their marked individuality, and to this he attributes no little of the dissension which has at times marked its ecclesiastical history; and he has said that of the two small histories of the town, two-thirds of one, and one-half of the other is taken up with this portion of its history. As I had, as a boy just out of college, something to do with one of these histories, you will allow me to say that in it I think the ecclesiastical has about the same

proportion that it bears in the actual history of the town. That these individualities in the former citizens of the town did not quite cease on their transfer to other atmospheres, is perhaps illustrated in the fact, that among the heresy hunters upon Andover hill, the earliest was the late honored and eminent Dr. Leonard Woods, a Princeton boy; and among the earliest of the heresy hunted, was the late amiable and accomplished Dr. James Murdock, for many years the Congregational pastor of the same town.

One word more before I close: Some years ago, in delivering an agricultural address before you, I had occasion to say that the future prosperity of the town would be in its becoming a health and summer resort, and I took the opportunity to urge upon you the necessity of preserving all its natural and picturesque scenery and beauty. I called your attention to the fact, that inroads were being made upon the lake at the foot of your mountain, which destroyed its beauty, and were turning it for portions of the season into a very unattractive condition, if not making it a positive nuisance. I am happy to say that the town shortly took such action as at once led to the remedy of this evil.

I now desire to call your attention to another matter which may add to the beauty and attraction of your town. Mr. Goodnow, seconded by church, town, and individuals, has done much to improve your village. Not many years ago, your distinguished Senator who has addressed you today (Senator Hoar) purchased the rock at the foot of the mountain and near the Wachusett Lake, upon which Mrs. Rowlandson was released by the Indians to his ancestor, and has had the rock properly inscribed to mark this event, connecting our present history with that of the aborigines, who made this mountain a somewhat favorite resort. It seems to me a happy inspira-

tion to have secured and marked this spot, which was the last, so far as I know, where the greatest of New England Indians, King Philip, appeared in any negotiations of his followers.

It seems to me that it would be an appropriate and grateful, and not expensive supplement to this act of Senator Hoar, for the town to purchase the surrounding acres on the borders of the lake and turn them into what I may well call Rowlandson Park. Upon Arbor day let the men, women and children create personal interest in this park by each planting there his or her tree or shrub, and so there shall be on the shore of the lake at the foot of the mountain, a memento alike of the history of its savage occupants and of the gentle culture and good taste of their civilized successors.

But I must not continue these remarks. I again thank the generous donor for what he has done ; I thank the church and the town for what they have done, and I congratulate you all that you have achieved so much for the beauty of this, my native town, and so much for its future good, happiness and stability.

Unity in Freedom

BY REV. CHARLES NICKLIN

It gives me very great pleasure to be here today. I have the three-fold pleasure of visiting Princeton: of taking in its wonderful scenery, of looking upon these massive buildings which have been dedicated by appropriate ceremonies and most fitting sentiments, and of meeting with many dear friends the recollection of whom will never fade from my memory. I repeat, it gives me great pleasure to be here.

The invitation to be present on this occasion came to me when I was several hundred miles away. At first, I thought to apologize, but I found that I was like the maid, who, when her mistress told her to make an apology for not having anything suitable to set before company, replied, "I have no eggs or milk to make it of." I felt that I had nothing to make an apology of, so I am here.

When I received the circular containing a formidable group of illustrious names, I anticipated what has happened, that you would be overcharged with speeches. I at once abandoned the idea of making special preparation for this occasion. After what you have already enjoyed it would be cruel to detain you by a lengthy speech.

The sentiment which was presented to me as a topic is a precious one, namely, "Unity in Freedom." There are two words here that I love, the first is "Unity," the next "Free-

dom." Put them together as they are here united and you have a splendid topic. Wherever I go I shall advocate unity and stand by the cause of freedom.

Many have been the battles fought, and thousands of precious lives have been sacrificed upon the altar of freedom. But in the history of the past, human rights have no sooner been obtained, than a spirit of intolerance has sprung up in the heart of the disenthralled, and in the enjoyment of their own rights they have used their power in curtailing and limiting the privileges and rights of others. I need only to refer you to the history of the early days of New England in confirmation of this statement. I often think of the words of William Penn: "Whoever is right, the persecutor must be wrong." Persecution is wrong.

Dr. Miner gave us a definition of truth when he stated that "principles are eternal." I felt when the Doctor was speaking that I would like to follow his address with a few remarks.

Some of us are trying to build upon what we believe to be the truth; others, perhaps, are trying to tear down some of the pillars of truth. If building, their methods may not be the same as mine, yet I would say, "God bless their toil." Are some in my estimation much mistaken, and whilst they are intending to build, are all the while pulling down; I would grant them the same freedom which it is my privilege to enjoy. If I believe in one God and my next door neighbor believes in twenty, I will not quarrel with him but will treat him as I do others; and if he needs any attention from me I shall be pleased to give it to him.

The great conflict between good and evil, right and wrong, truth and error, is in progress. You and I may stand face to face in this conflict. Let the contest be a fair one, then the

victory will be grandly won. Victory will be on the side of truth and right. Good will triumph over evil, right over wrong, truth over error. As Faber says:

" Right is right, since God is God,
And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin."

I must not detain you. It must be a great satisfaction as one draws near the close of this life to feel that he has done something for the benefit of others. Such a satisfaction the gentleman has who sits before you today. You remember it was the boast of Caesar Augustus that "he found Rome of brick, but left it marble." Mr. Goodnow will leave Princeton better than he found it. May we all so live and act, that when we come to the sunset of life we shall leave behind us an afterglow surpassing that of the setting sun.

Letters

FROM INVITED GUESTS

HINGHAM, Mass., July 30, 1887.

My Dear Sir: I regret that I cannot accept your invitation to speak Sept. 6 at the dedication of the Princeton library, but I am to be out of the State at that time.

I thank you for your courtesy in inviting me, and am, with best wishes for the occasion,

Truly yours,

JOHN D. LONG.

E. H. Heywood, Esq., Princeton.

MATUNUCK, R. I., August 5th, 1887.

My dear Mr. Heywood: Such plans as you write me about interest me, I might say, more than anything else does. I think there is nothing so important as these public libraries in the whole business of public education.

But I am sorry to say that it will be quite impossible for me to be present at the dedication.

Always yours truly,

EDWARD E. HALE.

LEICESTER, Aug. 28, 1887.

Mr. E. H. Heywood: Dear Sir: I am much obliged to the Committee of Arrangements for the Princeton Dedication of

the Goodnow Library and School Building, for their polite invitation to me to be one of the speakers on that occasion; and I beg you to assure them that I deem it an honor to be valued. But my days of making speeches have quite gone by, and I am fain to resign into other hands the honorable and certainly (otherwise) welcome service to which they call me. Your veteran townsman, Joshua T. Everett, can tell you that my years are not far from the same with his own, and that I cannot claim as much physical ability to address a large audience as he possesses, or as he did possess not long since.

But I would like to express my deep sympathy in the occasion of your celebration; and to offer my hearty congratulations to Princeton, and to all its inhabitants, upon their possession of a commodious and beautiful building for their Public Library. It is now more than twenty-six years since I began to render some service to the public library in this town; in which time there have not been many weeks, nor even days, in which I have not had its interests in mind. And I can heartily recommend the occupation, to such of your citizens as may be called to take part in it, as an eminently satisfactory one; though the high ideal of what a town library should be, and should do, may not be fully reached. Leicester does not envy Princeton in its possession of this fine home and safe depository for its library, but rather most heartily rejoices with you all in this valuable and useful acquisition. May it stand through many successive generations, to diffuse light, and cheer, and blessing to all the people, and to keep ever green the memory of its benefactors.

With thanks to yourself for the courtesy of your communication, and with warm wishes for a wholly successful day of dedication, which indeed seems quite assured, I am

Respectfully, etc.,

SAMUEL MAY.

WORCESTER, Aug. 2, 1887.

E. H. Heywood, Esq.: My Dear Sir: Nothing would give greater pleasure than to attend the dedicatory services of the Goodnow Memorial Building and speak upon the topic you suggest, but most unfortunately for me, the first term of the Probate Court, after vacation, comes on the 6th day of Sept., which of course precludes all possibility of my leaving this city on that day.

Nothing therefore remains for me to do but to reiterate my regrets, and to heartily thank you and those whom you represent for your kind invitation.

Very truly yours,

ADIN THAYER.

WORCESTER, Aug. 31, 1887.

My Dear Sir: I have delayed my reply to the kind invitation of your committee to take part in the dedication ceremonies at Princeton, Sept. 6th, in the hope that my way to its acceptance might be clear. A partially anticipated business engagement has now become a certainty, so that I am obliged to go to New York next Monday. I regret exceedingly that I cannot attend, for the occasion will surely be full of interest.

Very truly yours,

A. G. BULLOCK.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 29, 1887.

Mr. E. H. Heywood: My Dear Sir: Your kind invitation for Tuesday, Sept. 6th, at hand. It would give me great

pleasure to be present at the Library-School Building dedication; but I expect to be at the Thousand Islands at that time attending the sessions of the Librarians Association.

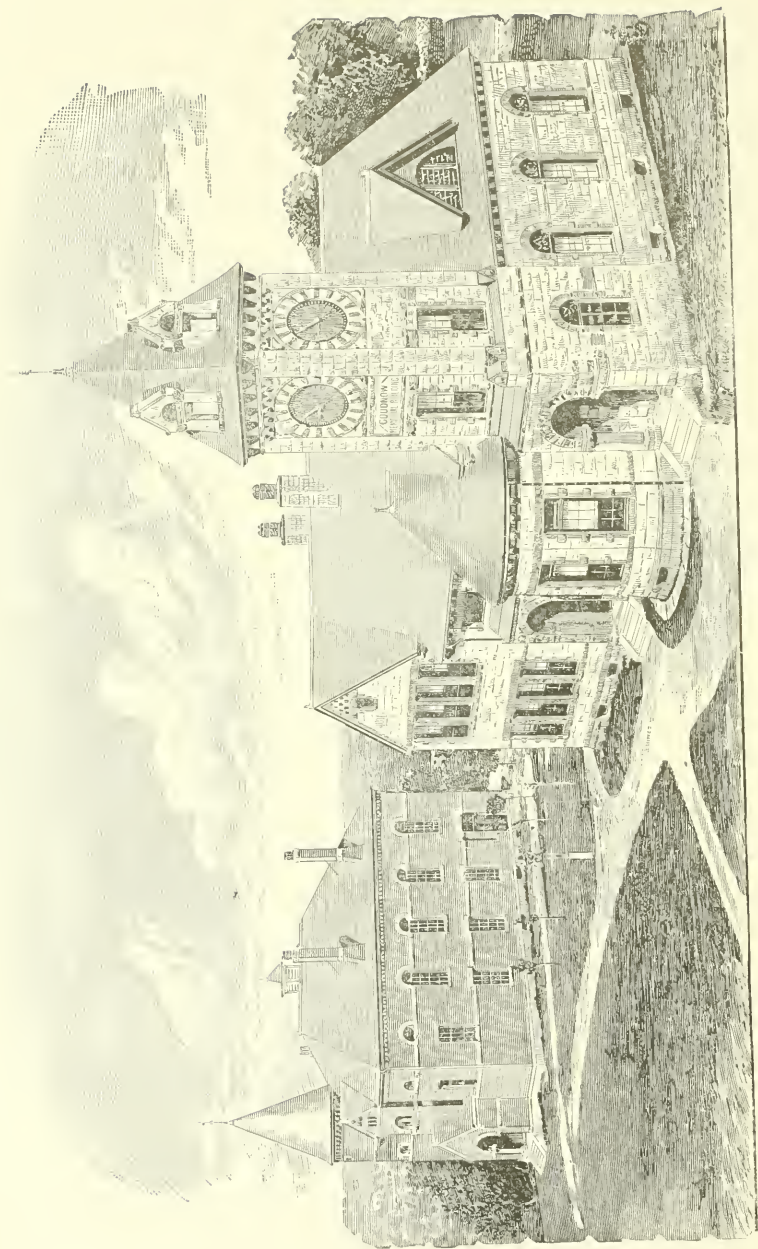
With best wishes, I am as ever,

Yours very truly,

R. A. GUILD.

APPENDIX





Goodnow Memorial Building

The Giver

BY THE COMMITTEE'S SECRETARY

Edward A. Goodnow, whose portrait appears as the frontispiece, was born in Princeton, July 16th, 1810, and was the third in a family of eight children. His parents, Edward and Rebecca Beaman Goodnow, were native to and hard workers upon these hills, now consecrated anew by generous deeds of their fortunate son. Trained in farm-work, in store, transportation, and manufacturing business, he went from here to Shelburne Falls in 1847, thence to Eaton, N. Y., but subsequently settled in our neighbor city of Worcester, where, as trader, jobber and banker, he accumulated largely the wealth, timely and serviceable disbursement of which makes him known and honored in this and foreign lands. A tireless, persistent, exact business man, from youth he has sensed "wrongs that need resistance, rights that need assistance," alert to see what he could do for human well-being, while visibly a part of it.

The dedication services, which call for this brief sketch of a notable career, interest people to know that, besides the \$40,000 planted in our midst, he has bestowed life-serving

power on many other privileged receivers. He has given \$15,000 to Huguenot Seminary in South Africa; \$20,000 to Mt. Holyoke Seminary; \$15,500 to Iowa College; \$5000 to Wellesley College; and \$5000 to Moody's School at Northfield. In these five donations, amounting to over \$60,000, he has founded thirty-five scholarships for needy and worthy girls. Illustrative of his anti-slavery faith, Mr. Goodnow gave \$5000 to found a John Brown Professorship in Washburn College, Kansas; he founded a scholarship, supported a number of students and contributed money for the buildings of the Colored School in Hampton, Va. He gave thousands to Oberlin, Ohio, Berea College in Kentucky, Lincoln College in Pennsylvania, and started a subscription with \$500 to equip the first black regiment in the war. In his own city, where he now resides, he furnished a fund of \$5000 to the Young Women's Christian Association; gave \$700 to the Polytechnic School; donated \$11,000 for a Chime of Bells and Organ in Plymouth Church; placed life size portraits of President Garfield and Henry Wilson in Mechanics Hall; provided marble tablets for fifteen soldier-students who gave their lives for their country, and a bust of General Grant in the High School building; and gave largely to churches, temperance societies and other religious, educational, and reformatory objects. These widely scattered but wisely invested donations, together with what one, able and willing to help others, is constantly giving in smaller sums, illustrate beneficent activity which few men, living or dead, have matched or surpassed.

Parting with wealth, while in vigorous, lucrative control of it, rather than waiting till death's final summons from it, Mr. Goodnow incarnates elective charity which helps recipients to help themselves, and quickens other persons of means to serve their time and kind also. Not only religious and educational enterprise, but anti-slavery, temperance, the elevation of

woman and other worthy reforms rejoice in his fruitful devotion. One's character appears in the use he or she makes of power; aid given to the source and spring of life, to mental and spiritual ability, assures moral control over material conditions, and promotes social welfare through personal felicity:

“For he that feeds men serveth few,
He serveth all who dares be true.”

Love of man and womankind manifest in imperishable service to our people is illustrious in the expansive thought which includes far-off Africans in human destiny ennobled here. In the library-school building, where we and our descendants may learn what is true and expedient in principle, and in the attractive hall where town meetings gather to see what is right and best practically, our benefactor serves general need and common life superior to personal interest.

A conspicuous leader in beneficent venture, elected to his work by inspiration, not by ballot; bequeathing value forever joyful in its beauty, the donor becomes elemental force among us, transcending death in perennial use. He also takes us a long way towards abolition of taxes; for in the Goodnow Memorial which we owe to fraternal generosity in one man, and in Bagg Hall for which we are largely indebted to him, and to personal benevolence in others, Voluntary Enterprise has here enduring manifestation. To do right for the sake of right; to relieve unexpressed want, answer prayer before made; to assure opportunity and reciprocity, by deeds which help all and hinder none—timely creative action beckons people towards Rational Society, the millennial state, where giving doth not impoverish or withholding enrich; where none command and none obey; where tax-compulsion and personal conflict disappear in overruling, irresistible impulse to live and let live.

E. H. H.

The Gift

Its Value and Beauty

BY PROF. T. W. BANCROFT

On the eleventh of February, 1884, the town of Princeton came into possession of a valuable property, which will forever recall the kindly beneficence of one of her sons. Mr. Edward A. Goodnow, with the generosity which has now become a marked trait of his character, deeded to his native town a tract of land with a building of chaste architectural design to be used as a public library. The land is a commanding site just north of the common, and is a part of the elevated plateau which extends in the centre of the town southward from the Wachusett range. This estimable gift is to be forever known as the Goodnow Memorial Building. The graceful form of this structure at once charms the eye. Beauty is so united to simplicity, by the skill of the architect, that no lavish adornment offends the most cultivated taste. The facade with its square tower, semi-circular bay window, and shapely gable, presents the chief attraction, yet every side and every feature seems to harmonize in such a manner that the observer realizes that "architecture is frozen music."

The architect, happy in his design, was no less fortunate in his choice of materials. The foundation is of native granite, which is so pervaded with hornblende that, both in hue and texture, it suggests to the thoughtful spectator that the build-

ing is a natural outgrowth of the eternal hills on which it rests. In the granite which forms the walls, feldspar of a flesh colored tint abounds, to give as it were a life-like tone; while the brownstone trimmings are so artistically arranged that use seems everywhere second to beauty.

The whole effect is one of which the eye does not tire, and as from year to year the library is enlarged, and works are added which will serve to mark human progress in letters and arts, this building will stand to please the more cultivated taste of future generations, and to prove the truth of the poet's utterance, that

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

The Gift

Description of the Building

BY THE ARCHITECT, S. C. EARLE

The Goodnow Memorial Building occupies a very commanding position, and is conspicuous in approaching the village from any direction. When the site was chosen and the location fixed upon a ledge, it was hoped that the material taken out in making the cellar would be suitable for the walls of the building; but the stone proved to be very intractable, and could be used only for the foundation walls. A beautiful rose tinted granite from Milford, Massachusetts, was selected for the material, in combination with Longmeadow brownstone. The base or underpinning is of a dark, local granite, and the roof is covered with black, Monson, Maine, slate. The outside dimensions on the ground are 60×67 feet, being in two nearly equal divisions, of which the east half is the public library, and the west the school-house. The entrance to the library is through a tower 14 feet square and 70 feet high, which bears on its front a large, Jonesboro granite tablet with the words, in raised and polished letters, "Goodnow Memorial Building, A. D. 1883." Higher up is a Howard tower clock, which strikes the hours on a fine toned Meneely bell of a thousand pounds weight, and inscribed "Goodnow Memorial Building," "Knowledge is Power." An open porch, built of stone throughout, leads to a vestibule which connects with the main library and the reading room. The former is 28×36 feet and

25 feet high, with an arched ceiling finished with ash ribs. A reading room, 15×21 feet and 13 feet high, connects with the library by wide doors, and from its two south windows in the bay end, commands a very extended prospect. Opening from this room is a fire-proof vault for the town records. The reading rooms and library are finished with brown ash, and are fitted up with all the requisite furniture of the same wood. The reading room has a terra cotta fireplace, and its floor, and that of the connecting vestibule, are laid with tiles of rich patterns. Decorative painting on the walls and ceilings adds much to the beauty and completeness of the rooms, in addition to which is to be noted an effective use of stained glass.

In the library near the entrance door, a mural tablet of African onyx set in a frame of richly carved Knoxville marble, explains the origin and purpose of the building in the following words:

IN MEMORY OF
HARRIET GOODNOW,
MARY AUGUSTA GOODNOW
AND HER SON
HENRY BAGG GOODNOW,
DAUGHTERS AND GRANDSON OF HENRY BAGG, M. D.,
THIS BUILDING, DEDICATED TO THE
EDUCATION OF THE YOUNG, IS ERECTED BY THE
HUSBAND AND FATHER,
EDWARD A. GOODNOW.
A. D. 1883.

In the reading room, over the fireplace, is a life-size medalion of Mr. Goodnow, the work of Andrew O'Connor of Worcester. It is of white Italian set in Spanish marble.

The school-house, which comprises the western half of the building, has an entrance with hallways and stairs for the girls on the south side, and similar arrangements for the boys on the west. Two school-rooms, 24×30 feet each, one in the first and one in the second story, occupy the southwest corner of the building. They are fitted up with the most approved seats and desks, for forty scholars to each room. This part of the building has the finish of brown ash and floors of maple, and the walls and ceilings have plain tints throughout.

A high cellar, under the entire building, blasted out of the solid ledge, with a cement floor, gives to the children an admirable place for exercise during rough weather.

Work on the building was commenced in September 1882; and by December of the following year the school-rooms were occupied.

The building and the land have cost between twenty-five and thirty thousand dollars. The sum of five thousand dollars was given for the moving of the Congregational Church from its position in front of this building to its present location, and for constructing its vestry and parlors to take the place of the former chapel, in the rear of the main edifice. A fund of five thousand dollars provides income for the care of the building and grounds, securing at least fifty dollars for books, although the remainder of the income, not otherwise used, may also be so expended.

Stephen C. Earle of Worcester was the architect, Norcross Brothers of Worcester were the builders, and P. A. Butler of Boston did the frescoing. The memorial tablet is the work of Evans and Tombs, Boston.

The Deed of Gift

BY EDWARD A. GOODNOW

Know all men by these presents, that I, Edward A. Goodnow, of the city and county of Worcester and commonwealth of Massachusetts, Banker, in consideration of the good will and affection which I bear to my native town, to wit, the town of Princeton in the county and commonwealth aforesaid, hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey to said Town of Princeton a certain lot of land situated in the centre of said Princeton and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the west line of the road leading from said Centre to Wachusett mountain, at the north-easterly corner of the lot or common on which the Congregational Church now stands, thence running N. 75.5° W. in a straight line 227.8 feet to land of Eliza V. Andrews, thence N. 8° W. in a straight line 231 feet to land of P. C. Doolittle, thence S. 73° E. 181.5 feet in a straight line to the west line of said road, thence on the line of said road 247.5 feet to the place of beginning, containing forty-three thousand six hundred and sixty square feet; together with the Memorial Building which I have thereon erected in memory of my wives and only child, the descendants of an esteemed and honored family long established in said town, and all the fixtures, furniture, bell, clock and all other property to me belonging now therein:

To have and to hold said estate and property to the said Town of Princeton, its successors and assigns forever; in special trust nevertheless, for the uses, intents and purposes following, that is to say: In trust forever hereafter to keep and maintain therein, under such reasonable rules and regulations as the Trustees thereof for the time being, hereafter provided for, shall from time to time establish, a Free Public Library and Reading-room for the use and enjoyment of all the inhabitants for the time being of said Town of Princeton, and of such other persons as said Trustees for the time being shall by general rule or special permit allow to use the same; Provided, that said Trustees shall allow the parts of said Building now specially fitted up and furnished by me as school-rooms to be kept and maintained for school purposes and uses under the direction of said Town, until such time hereafter as the same shall be needed for the enlargement, uses and accommodation of said Library and Reading-room; Provided further, and this deed is made on this further condition and trust, that said Town shall at all times and forever hereafter provide, at its own expense, for the keeping of said Building, Clock and Bell in thorough repair, pay all taxes thereon if the same should hereafter become taxable by law, and the same keep constantly insured and as adequately insured as said Building, Clock, Bell and furniture and fixtures in said Building now are, under and by virtue of fire policies of insurance for the total sum of seventeen thousand five hundred dollars, running for three years, which are herewith assigned to said Town: and should the same be burned or otherwise destroyed in whole or in part, or be injured, damaged or defaced by fire, the elements of nature or the violence of man, said Town shall re-build, repair and restore said Building without unnecessary delay to the same condition substantially in which it now is, to the end that it may forever stand as a Memorial

Building worthy of the several objects for which it was erected and designed: Provided also, and this deed is made on this condition and further trust, that said Estate, Building, Library and Reading-room shall be at all times under the exclusive discretionary care, management and control of a Board of Trustees to consist at all times of not less than seven nor more than ten persons, who shall be residents and tax-payers of said Town of Princeton, besides the chairman of the selectmen of said town for the time being, and the ordained, installed or stated and acting pastor or pastors of each and every protestant church in said town for the time being, which chairman and pastor or pastors shall be *ex officio* members, and, together with the others, shall constitute said board, which shall be known and called by the name and style of The Trustees of the Goodnow Memorial Building; and said board as first constituted shall be composed of William B. Goodnow, Thomas H. Russell of Boston (who is hereby specially exempted from the conditions of residence and tax-paying), Henry F. Sanborn, Joseph O. West, John Brooks, Moses H. Bullard, Moses H. Mirick, Algernon T. Beaman, Moses C. Goodnow, Josiah D. Gregory and the chairman and pastor or pastors aforesaid, who shall, subject to the limitations and conditions as to residence and tax-paying and competency, respectively, continue members of said board during their respective lives, except said *ex officio* members, who shall continue members only so long as they retain their offices as chairman and pastors aforesaid; Provided, that either of said Trustees may at any time by a writing filed with the clerk of said board, resign his place as a member thereof; and if at any time either of said Trustees, or any Trustee for the time being hereafter appointed, shall cease permanently to be a resident of said town or to be a tax-payer therein, or shall become incapable of discharging the duties of said trust, it shall be

lawful for said Board, after at least one week's notice personally served upon the alleged incapable Trustee and upon the town clerk for the time being of said town, of their intended action, to declare the place of such Trustee vacant, and thereupon such Trustee shall cease to be a member of said Board; provided that no place shall be declared vacant except by a vote of two-thirds of the whole Board. And all vacancies in said Board as the same may from time to time occur, whether by death, resignation, removal from town, the action of the Board as aforesaid, or otherwise, shall from time to time be filled by election by said Board of Trustees from the citizens of said town. And the said Board of Trustees shall in each and every year render to said Town at its annual town meeting a full detailed report and account, in writing, of all their doings under said trusts and the trusts hereinafter provided for, during the year then last past, and of all moneys and other property that shall have come to their hands thereunder, and of the uses and disposition made by them of the same, and the said Trustees shall at all times keep a full record of all their actions and proceedings under such trusts, and full accounts of all moneys coming to their hands under the same, all which records and accounts shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the selectmen, or other town officers having substantially the same functions, and each of them for the time being, of said Town.

And to the intent that the aforesaid gift and grant may accomplish in the best manner all the purposes for which it is designed, and may be suitably maintained for all coming generations as a Memorial Building and a means of education, usefulness and pleasure for all the Inhabitants of said Town of Princeton, I hereby give, grant, transfer and make over to said Town of Princeton the sum of Five Thousand Dollars in money, in special trust, nevertheless, for the uses, intents and

purposes and upon the conditions following : In trust, to forever set apart and keep safely invested said sum of Five Thousand Dollars to be known and designated as the Goodnow Memorial Building Fund, and the same principal sum at the expense of said Town to keep forever unimpaired and whole, and pay all taxes that may at any time hereafter be assessed thereon, and from the income derived from said Fund to pay to the Ladies Village Improvement Society, in said Town, whenever such Society shall be duly organized, the sum of Fifty Dollars annually, in semi-annual payments, the whole to be used and expended by said Society from time to time, each year, in procuring and planting ornamental trees, shrubs, vines and flowers in and upon the grounds of said Estate, and caring for, nurturing, trimming and improving the same, to which Society the further sum of two hundred dollars is presently to be given by me for the same uses and purposes ; and from said income to pay to said Trustees the sum of Fifty Dollars, each and every year, in semi-annual payments, the same to be used by said Trustees for the purchase of books for said Free Library and Reading-room provided that said Town shall appropriate, each and every year, the further sum of Fifty Dollars to be expended by said Trustees for the same purpose, and to pay to said Board of Trustees, yearly, in semi-annual payments, the remainder of said income to be applied by said Board, first, towards keeping said Building and ground and the walls and fences around them in good condition and repair, and next, towards the purchase of books for said Library, in their discretion. The grantor reserves to himself during his life visitatorial powers over this his gift.

And I do covenant to warrant and defend said granted premises to the said Town of Princeton upon the aforesaid conditions and trusts, forever, against the lawful claims and demands of all persons whatsoever.

In witness whereof, I, the said Edward A. Goodnow, and I, Sarah A. Goodnow, wife of said Edward A., hereby releasing and quitclaiming all my right, title, claim and demand for dower, homestead, and estate in fee in and unto said granted premises, have each hereunto set our hands and seals this seventeenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

EDWARD A. GOODNOW. [L. S.]

SARAH A. GOODNOW. [L. S.]

Signed, sealed and delivered, in presence of

CHARLES E. STEVENS.

CARRIE P. WEST.

WORCESTER, ss., January 18, 1884. Then personally appeared the above named Edward A. Goodnow and acknowledged the above instrument to be his free act and deed, before me,

CHARLES E. STEVENS,
Justice of the Peace.

Acceptance of the Gift

BY THE TOWN

At a legal meeting of the legal voters of the Town of Princeton, held the seventh day of February, 1884, the second Article of the Warrant calling said meeting reads as follows:

SECTION 2. To see if the Town will accept a Deed of Gift of Land, Library and School Building and Money tendered to it by Mr. Edward A. Goodnow, upon the trusts, terms and conditions in said Deed set forth, and to accept said trusts, terms and conditions, and to take any and all action deemed expedient relative thereto.

Said Deed was submitted, and read in full.

The following motion was offered by A. T. Beaman and seconded by J. E. Merriam:

That the Town do hereby accept said Deed of conveyance of Land, Buildings and Money, and upon the trusts, terms and conditions in said Deed set forth; and that the Town do hereby accept all the trusts, terms and conditions thereof, and agree to faithfully keep and perform all the obligations of the same.

Voted unanimously to adopt said motion.

Voted, That the Town gratefully acknowledge the considerate liberality of Mr. Goodnow in this permanent provision for the educational interests of the present and future inhab-

itants of his native town, by the erection of an elegant, capacious and commodious edifice for school and library purposes, amply furnishing and generously providing for its maintenance and use.

Voted, That in accepting this donation, the Town tenders its thanks to Mr. Goodnow, and pledges itself to pay particular attention to the edifice itself, and to the objects to which it is devoted by the wishes and provisions of the donor.

Voted, That the Town Clerk be directed to communicate the foregoing votes to Mr. Goodnow.

Attest :

DAVID H. GREGORY, Town Clerk.

Bagg Hall

Its History

FROM THE TOWN RECORDS

During the year 1883 the Town of Princeton considered and accepted the proposal of Mr. Edward A. Goodnow to give the sum of \$5000 for the removal of the Congregational church, the purchase of a new site therefor, the finishing of a vestry in the same and grading the grounds around it, and also for the purchase of a site for a new Town Hall. Of the whole amount thus given, the sum of \$600 was expended in the purchase of the last named site.

At a town meeting, March 3, 1884, the Town "voted to raise \$9000 to build a new Town Hall." At the same meeting, this resolve was unanimously adopted: "That the thanks of the Town are hereby tendered to the Pewholders of the Congregational Society for their considerate deference to public interest in consenting to the removal of their church and other buildings in accordance with the plan proposed and adopted relative to the new Town Hall."

In addition to what the Town had voted to raise, the sum of \$1000 was subscribed by non-residents, only \$900 of which, however, was ultimately paid in to the building committee.

Meanwhile, proposals for building the Hall had been invited and received, of which the lowest was found to be \$15,800, \$5800 more than what both the Town and the non-resident subscribers had provided for.

Here the matter rested until Mr. Goodnow went to Princeton, called together the principal men of property in the Centre, and proposed that if five of them would jointly contribute the sum of \$3000 towards erecting the building according to the plans and specifications which had been presented, he would contribute \$3000 more, with the annexed condition that the Town name the new building Bagg Hall, thus perpetuating the name of his only son, Henry Bagg Goodnow.

At a town meeting, June 11, 1884, the Town "voted to accept the gift of \$3000 from E. A. Goodnow of Worcester, and in consideration therefor name the proposed Town Hall BAGG HALL."

Mr. Goodnow paid his \$3000 into the treasury and the five joint subscribers paid in \$2700. A further subscription of \$200 by three other persons was paid, which, with the other sums named made a total of \$15,800.

At a town meeting, September 27, 1884, it was "voted that the Town accept the location, plans and specifications presented by Mr. Earle, subject to such alterations as the architect and building committee may think proper to adopt; that the committee be authorized to erect a hall in accordance with said plans, the Town not to be assessed to a greater amount than the \$9000 already voted."

Thus furnished with funds and authority the committee proceeded with their work and the Building was completed at a cost of \$14,210 and accepted by the Town, leaving a balance of \$1,589.54 in the hands of the committee. Their chairman having announced that the service of the committee was

gratuitous, the Town passed a unanimous vote of thanks to them "for their judicious, devoted, and gratuitous service in superintending the erection of the attractive structure and bringing it to its admirable completion."

At a town meeting, October 19, 1886, the same committee having reported that they had divided, *pro rata*, among eleven subscribers (Mr. Goodnow excepted) the above balance of \$1,589.54, a committee consisting of the three Selectmen and one other citizen was appointed "to investigate and ascertain all the facts under oath relative to the subscriptions" to the building fund and report at an adjourned meeting.

At that adjourned meeting, November 2, 1886, the investigating committee presented an exhaustive report in which they say that "they can discover nothing in the town records to show that these subscriptions were conditional;" "nor was there anything in the notes given to the treasurer of the building committee by some of the subscribers to secure their subscriptions." And the committee conclude their report with a recommendation "that the Building Committee pay into the town treasury the balance remaining in their hands at the time of making said report, and that then the same be divided, *pro rata*, between the Town, Mr. E. A. Goodnow and all the other subscribers to the fund for building Bagg Hall." This report was accepted and the meeting was dissolved.

To correct erroneous impressions which have gone abroad in regard to Mr. Goodnow's gift for Bagg Hall, the following statement made by him is here presented: When Mr. Goodnow made his conditional offer of \$3000, there were present four of the five subscribers concerned in the arrangement, together with other citizens and a gentleman from out of

town. The fifth subscriber was subsequently seen at his house by Mr. Goodnow, and in the presence of a third person the same conditional proposition was made to him. The proposition to each and all was this — that if the five would together subscribe \$3000, Mr. Goodnow would give \$3000 more with the further annexed condition that the building should be named Bagg Hall. The next step taken by some of the five subscribers was to cause an article to be put into the warrant for a town meeting to see if the Town would name the building Bagg Hall in consideration of Mr. Goodnow's offer, not coupling with it the other condition of his gift, to wit, that the five should also give \$3000. Next, the same persons made an attempt to raise their \$3000 in order to comply with Mr. Goodnow's condition. Of that sum, however, only \$2700 were raised, notes for which were given and subsequently redeemed by the payment of the money due thereon to the treasurer of the Building Committee. The building was then completed and transferred to the Town, in connection with which transfer the chairman announced that the services of the Building Committee were gratuitous; whereupon a unanimous vote of thanks to the committee was passed by the Town.

A balance of \$1,589.54 remaining in the hands of the committee, and these claiming a private understanding between themselves and the five subscribers (two of whom were also of the committee), that if any balance remained it should be returned, they assumed to act in accordance with this private understanding. But instead of returning the whole balance to the five subscribers, they returned to them forty per cent. of their subscriptions and gave away forty per cent. of \$1050 which five other persons had given to the Town for building the hall without any reservation whatever.

In this manner they assumed to give away \$420 of the Town's money to persons who made no claim thereto. An eminent counselor-at-law who had formerly been employed by the Town to do its legal business was present at the town meeting and publicly stated that if the Building Committee had given away any money they had given away their own, but that the balance of \$1,589.54 belonged to the Town.

Description of the Building

BY THE ARCHITECT, S. C. EARLE

The new Town Hall, like the Goodnow Memorial, stands on the high plateau north of and facing the common.

The building is 40×70 feet, with external walls of Montague face brick with dressings of Longmeadow brown stone and a little terra cotta ornamental work, including the words BAGG HALL and the date, 1885, on the front. It is two stories high, with a circular stair tower 16 feet in diameter at the southwest corner. This has a sharp conical roof, 78 feet in height to the top of the finial. The main building has a steep hip roof, the ridge of which is 50 feet from the ground. The roof covering is best dark Maine slate. The main entrance is at the south end, with granite steps leading to an open porch 5×11 ft. Marble tablets on two opposite sides of this porch bear the names of the Princeton soldiers who lost their lives in the war for the Union. A vestibule $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide extends across the whole width of the building with wide stairs of double run, at each end, leading to a vestibule of same dimensions as the lower one. The main hall is entered directly from the upper vestibule, and is about 37×40 feet on the floor and 18 feet high, with a gallery about 14 feet wide over the vestibule at the south end. At the north end is the stage, 14 feet deep, arranged for scenery and dramatic appliances. A stairway at the northeast corner leads from the stage to the lower story and rear entrance.

The first story, which is 12 feet high, has a hall 26×30 feet for miscellaneous purposes, a town clerk's room and assessors' room, each about 14 feet square, and an ante-room about $10 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$; all of which are connected directly with the vestibule by a corridor about six feet wide. There is also a kitchen 10×11 feet, connected with the large hall and rear entrance, and the requisite closets. The inside finish throughout is of ash. A hearse-room, $11 \times 26\frac{1}{2}$ feet, occupies the northwest corner of the building. Stairs lead to the basement, but as the building is heated by means of stoves, little use is made of it, and the site being solid ledge it was not excavated to a uniform level.

The building was designed by Stephen C. Earle of Worcester, architect, and was built by day work under the direction of I. F. Thompson, chairman of the building committee, Lorenzo Pratt being foreman in charge. The main hall was tastefully frescoed by Strauss Brothers of Boston.

Dedicatory Proceedings

BY THE EDITOR

Pursuant to an article in the warrant for the annual town meeting held March 14, 1887, the town adopted the following votes :

Voted, That we dedicate the new Town Hall and the Goodnow Memorial Building; that the Executive Committee of the Trustees of said Memorial Building, with the Selectmen be a committee to make arrangements and fix the time for such dedication and that two hundred dollars be appropriated for that purpose.

Voted, That this appropriation be paid out of any unappropriated funds in the treasury.

The above committee consisted of C. H. Thompson, A. B. Keyes and Wm. R. Howe, selectmen, and H. F. Sanborn, M. C. Goodnow and J. C. F. Mirick of the Trustees. By this committee C. H. Thompson, M. C. Goodnow, T. H. Russell and E. H. Heywood were chosen a sub-committee. Mr. Russell was chosen to act as President of the day and Mr. Heywood as Secretary; and Mr. Thompson was made Chairman of the sub-committee and treasurer.

The day appointed for the dedication was the 6th of September, 1887, which proved to be in all respects an auspicious

day. At 10 o'clock in the morning of that day a procession formed in front of the Wachusett House and moved around the public square and past the buildings to be dedicated, to the Congregational church in the following order :

Mr. E. W. Gill, Marshal.

W. H. Whitcomb and C. W. Houghton, Aids.

Grafton Cornet Band, E. E. Howe, Leader.

Grand Army Veterans.

Hon. Thomas H. Russell, President of the day and Dr. Nathan Allen of Lowell, Orator of the day.

Senator George F. Hoar and Mr. Edward A. Goodnow, Rev. William Silverthorne, Rev. George M. Howe, Hon. George M. Stearns, Mr. C. H. Thompson, chairman of the Selectmen, Hon. John E. Russell, Mr. H. F. Sanborn, Rev. Dr. A. A. Miner, Hon. Charles Theodore Russell, Rev. William T. Briggs, Deacon J. T. Everett, Mr. Edwin Grimes, town clerk, Rev. Charles Nicklin, Mr. Moses C. Goodnow, Prof. Frank J. Goodnow of Columbia College, Mr. Stephen C. Earle the architect, and many others.

After the company were seated in the church with Dr. Allen the orator, Mr. Goodnow, Rev. Mr. Howe and Rev. Mr. Silverthorne on the platform with the President of the day, the services were opened with music by the band. This was followed with prayer by Rev. William Silverthorne of Princeton, chaplain of the day, after which the introductory address was spoken by the president, Hon. Thomas H. Russell. Further music by the band was followed by the Dedicatory Address of Dr. Nathan Allen of Lowell. Owing to some indisposition on the part of the author the address was read by Rev. George M. Howe of Lewiston, Maine, a former pastor of the church.

At the conclusion of this address the assembly repaired to Bagg Hall for a collation, pausing on the way to be photographed as they stood grouped upon and around the steps of the church. A copy of this picture with some of the principal actors designated by their names has been deposited in the Library Building as a memento of the occasion.

At half past two o'clock the church was again filled with the assembly, and after the performance of a selection from Meyerbeer by the band and the reading of a telegram from Rev. Geo. W. Phillips, D. D., the former pastor of Plymouth church in Worcester, so largely indebted to Mr. Goodnow's generosity, the rest of the day was chiefly occupied by gentlemen who had been invited to be present and speak on the occasion. The telegram of Dr. Phillips extended his "congratulations to Princeton and its benefactor on your [their] increased facilities for working out the serious problems of country towns." Hon. Geo. M. Stearns of Chicopee, late U. S. District Attorney, was then called up to respond to the sentiments, 'The President of the United States' and 'The State,' the last having been intended for his excellency Governor Ames, who was unavoidably absent. The next speaker was our United States Senator, George F. Hoar, and after him came Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., of Boston, whose subject was 'The Church.' He was followed by Hon. John E. Russell of Leicester, our representative in Congress, without any announcement of his topic. Then Rev. William T. Briggs, a former pastor of the Congregational church, was called on to speak for 'The Princeton Clergy.' He was succeeded by Prof. Frank J. Goodnow of Columbia College, New York, whose subject was announced as 'The Bookworm.' Next, John A. Dana, Esq., of Worcester, a Princeton boy, spoke for 'The Princeton Boys.' He was followed by the Hon. Charles

Theodore Russell of Cambridge, also a son of Princeton and Centennial orator, October 20, 1859. Mr. Stephen C. Earle of Worcester was next called up to speak; and after him came Rev. Charles Nicklin of Kendal Green, a former pastor of the Methodist church, the subject of whose remarks was 'Unity in Freedom.' Mr. William B. Goodnow of Princeton, as the representative of 'The Farmers of Princeton,' closed the speaking of the day. Mr. S. R. Heywood of Worcester, a native of Princeton, was to have spoken for 'The Manufacturers of Worcester,' but was unavoidably absent, as was Col. J. A. Titus of Worcester, who had been asked to speak for 'The Citizen Soldier.'

Following the speeches was the reading of letters from invited guests, some of which will be found elsewhere in these pages. Letters were also read from his excellency Governor Ames, Gen. B. F. Butler, Rev. A. L. Love, late pastor of the Congregational church, Mr. John Hopkins of Millbury and Mr. James E. Estabrook of Worcester, and Mr. E. G. Walker.

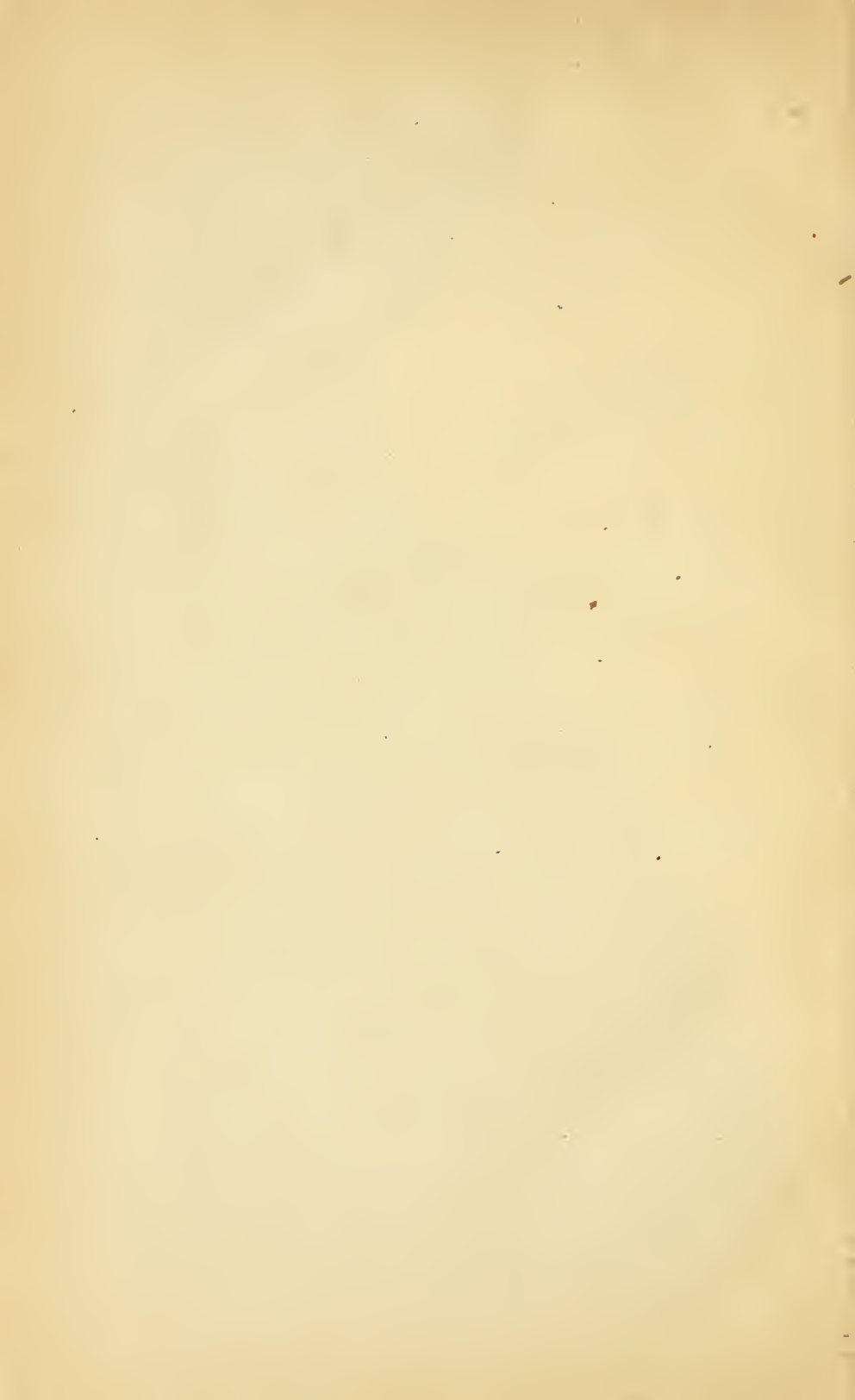
Among the persons present, other than those already mentioned, were Rear Admiral Thomas O. Selfridge of Washington, George E. Hendee of the United States Navy, W. C. Langley, Esq., of Philadelphia, Mrs. C. A. Goodnow and her daughters, Miss Kittie and Miss Hattie Goodnow of Boston, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Richardson of Worcester, Mr. Asel Davis of Lowell, Professor Kelley of Providence, Mr. Silas Howe of Holden, Mr. C. M. Dyer and family of Worcester, and Mr. E. W. Nash and Mr. G. E. Haskell and family of Boston. The public press of Worcester, Springfield and Boston was well represented, and full reports of the proceedings were printed in the journals of those cities.

It may be properly stated by the writer of this sketch that the success of the occasion was largely due to the activity and enterprise of Mr. E. H. Heywood, the secretary of the committee of arrangements.

Among many other interesting incidents of the day was the presentation to the Public Library of three electrical machines invented and constructed by three sons of Princeton: one by Asel Davis, and an electro-magnetic machine by Daniel Davis, now deceased. These evidences of inventive genius are on permanent exhibition in the Library.

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